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STYLE

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COMPLIMENTARY
ISSUE 26 SEPT/OCT 2015



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SEP/OCT



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Luxury on show at
Downtown Design





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*Sacha Walckhoff joins
our Design Awards jury*



HARPER'S BAZAAR INTERIORS
Cover: Jonathan Adler, courtesy of Steve Giralt





roberto cavalli
home

LUXURY TILES

Harper's BAZAAR INTERIORS

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EDITOR'S LETTER



Thanks to international luxury design shows and the breadth of talent in the Emirates, Dubai is being hailed as the new capital of design, now applicable in a global context, not just on an emirate-wide scale. This industry shift is something that we're celebrating in this haute design issue of *Harper's Bazaar Interiors*, from the city's inaugural Design Week, from October 26, to our very own Design Awards two days later. The weeks ahead sees Dubai transform into a giant hub of talent and enterprise, of a size yet unseen in this region. Dubai Design Week will turn the emirate into an

inspiring and decorative space, from installations conceived by the region's highly-acclaimed artists to new-designer initiatives, such as The Grad Show (*Dubai's Time is Now*, page 54). In the midst of the city-wide creativity, the luxury trade show Downtown Design is back, relocating to the burgeoning centre of design in the emirate, d3. This year the show is doubling in size and attracting the most prestigious brands from around the world, as well as six international design weeks, each showcasing the depths of their own talent pool (*Designed for Excellence*, page 47). However, the event that I am (biasedly) looking forward to most is the *Harper's Bazaar Interiors Design Awards*.

Here, we will pay tribute to exceptional brands, on both a regional and global level, as nominated by you, our discerning readers; go online and vote at Harpersbazaarinteriorwards.com.

Before then, meet the esteemed designers and experts on our judging panel (*The Jury is In*, page 56), who will join me in choosing each

category winner from the plethora of premium brands you've elected. As well as providing an exciting platform from which to recognise the wealth of talent in the region, it will be an honour to voice your thoughts on who is the best, locally and globally. ■

Eleanor's EDIT

Autumnal colours exude comfort; a flash of metal adds the Midas touch

1. Crescent Table Lamp, Dhs6,699, Lee Broom

2. Vintage Majlis Cushions, Dhs1,200, The Urban Yogi

3. Animalia Giraffe Tray, Dhs470, Jonathan Adler

4. Jimmy Choo Lattice Peep Toe Booties, Dhs1,325, Theluxurycloset.com

5. Dining chair, Dhs2,580, Flamant

6. Odette's Catch-Alls, Dhs162-Dhs220, Silsal Design House



Eleanor

ELEANOR JOSLIN, EDITOR

PRICES APPROXIMATE. ELEANOR WEARS ALAYA PARIS COUTURE DRESS, Dhs9,060, MONICA VINADER NECKLACE, Dhs1,200, BRASS SPROUT RING, Dhs405, AND WISHBONE BANGLE, Dhs275, BOTH DINOSAUR DESIGNS, ALL BOUTIQUE 1

Soft Dreams in Colette

Colette Bed's classic camelback curve is upholstered in a soft natural linen blend and accented with signature brushed pewter nailheads, each applied by hand. Curved, solid maple legs are finished in black, with signature, hand-applied nailheads in brushed pewter adding the final refinement.

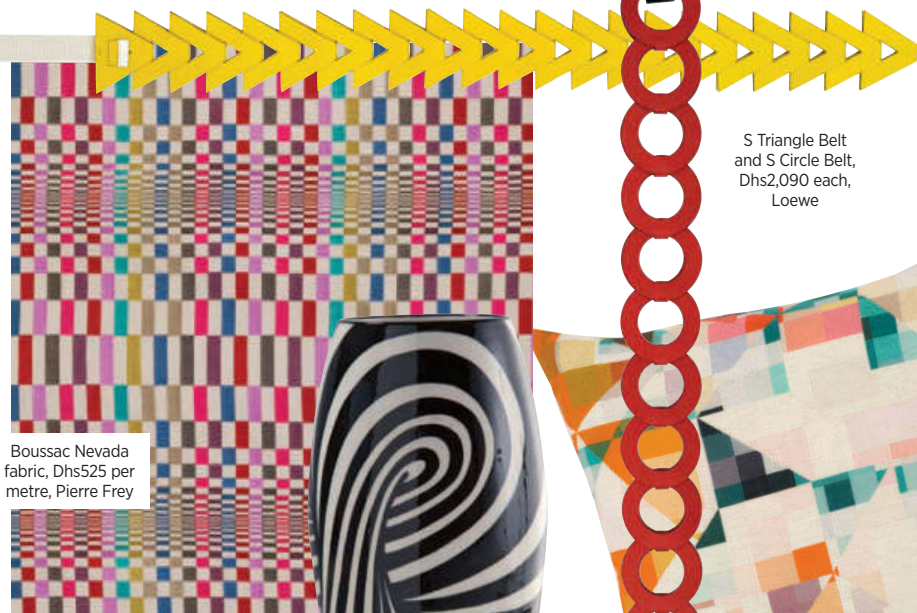
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Boussac Nevada fabric, Dhs525 per metre, Pierre Frey

Optical Vase, from Dhs3,250 Roche Bobois

Duffy London Monolith Chair, Dhs10,590, Cities

SHAPE SHIFTER

From fashion to furniture, high-octane geometric patterns and bold colour are making a statement. Get dizzy looking at the AW15 collections from Armani Prive, Peter Pilotto, Loewe and Longchamp; Karim Rashid combines both worlds printing his signature patterns on new casual kicks for Sully Wong; at home go cross-eyed with retro symmetrical prints from Pierre Frey and Waterford Crsytal.

Focus Citron Rug by Cédric Ragot, Dhs21,500, Roche Bobois

Northmore Major cushion by Rachel Parker, Dhs373, Flock.org.uk

EDITOR'S CHOICE

Create an optical illusion with psychedelic colours and eye-dazzling pattern

HIP TO BE...

Squares are joining the geometric revolution, giving the enduring trend a cleaner edge. While swirls and triangular shards have been prevalent, we're now seeing the four-sided polygon add to the mix.

Rebel Collection Compact Mirror, Dhs287, Waterford Crystal

Ola Berry Retro Bench Chair, Dhs1,436, Florrie + Bill for Kitty McCall

Charlotte Olympia Two-Face Wedge, Dhs8,135, Saks Fifth Avenue Bahrain

Joachim Murano glass vase, Dhs8,978, Armani Casa

Sarah Morris Le Pliage limited edition bag, Dhs10,000, Longchamp

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Starting an Interior Design Business | 28 - 30 Oct
Colour for Interiors | 30 October
Lighting Design Concepts | 31 Oct - 2 Nov

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Harper's HOTTEST, NEWEST, LATEST BAZAAR

NEW-SEASON STYLE

From retro prints to illustrative surfaces, layers of divine colours and thick piles of textured fabrics, AW15 is a time to sink into tactile trends



1

Swirls of MALACHITE serve up a platter of PRECIOUS fare

Green Malachite
Platter, Dhs1,891
L'Objet

2

The RETRO is on the wall...

FLOWER POWER circa the '70s is back

Starflower Original
Wallpaper, Dhs417,
Littlegreene.eu

Fall is still A FLUTTER with colour



Butterfly Plate
Charger, Dhs40,
Zara Home

Boussac Pulp
Collection, from
Dhs369-Dhs882,
Pierre Frey

Yellow and TEAL and a soft FLEECE feel

Take a pew
of QUILTED
pockets



Verpan System
1-2-3 Lounge Chair,
Dhs6,975, En Vogue

Make a MARRIAGE of copper and gold
for the perfect MIX OF METALS



The Special
Tree Cabinet,
Dhs54,677,
Insidherland

Minotti Leonard
Sofa, Dhs57,600,
Aati

Marsala paints an AUTUMNAL

picture off the RUNWAY





Reze Chiffonnier,
Dhs13,350, Roche
Bobois

*Pretty PASTELS and
FIFTIES flair*



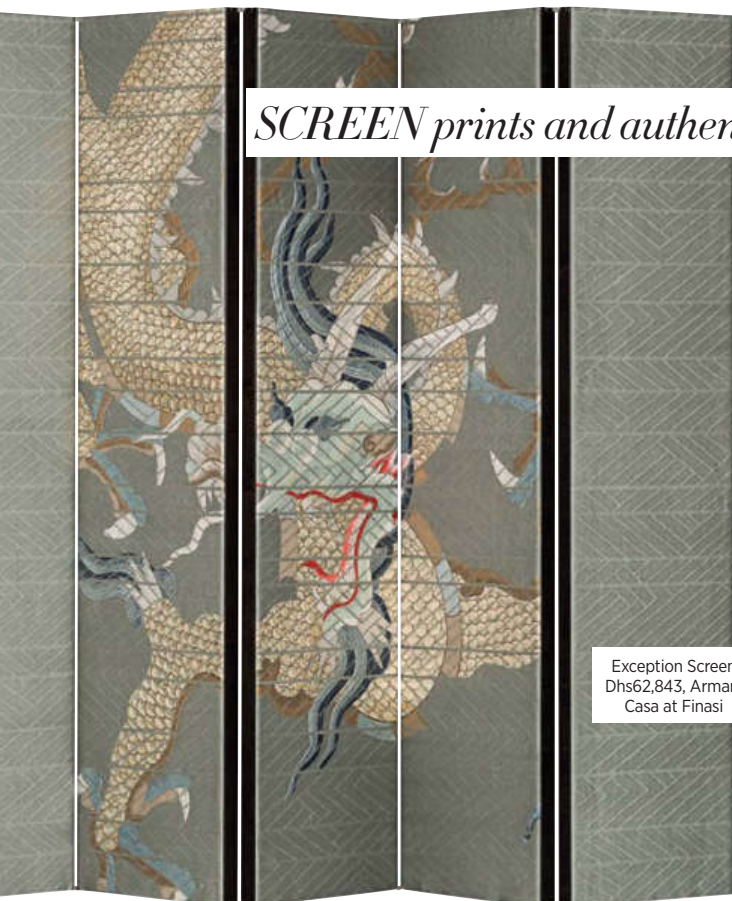
Quatrefoil Mirror,
Dhs10,248,
Mari Ianiq

Reflect the growing trend for VINTAGE



Arteriors Lamp,
Dhs2,400, Aati

*Keep it SIMPLE with
burnished metals and NEUTRAL shades*



SCREEN prints and authentic CHINOISERIE

Exception Screen
Dhs62,843, Armani
Casa at Finasi



Duffy London
Chalk Board
Coffee Table,
Dhs3,760, Cities

*Bring your ideas to the table with
INTERACTIVE furniture*

13

*Take the DRAWING room
literally with layers of DELICATE illustrations
and PENCIL-GREY hues*



Buckingham House
wallpaper, Dhs2,348 per
panel, Velveto sofa fabric,
Dhs1,049 per metre, Charles
II velvet chair fabric, Dhs1,130
per metre, all Designers
Guild at Maison D'art

Cones - Aurora Wallpaper, Dhs281 per roll; chair painted Orange Aurora no. 21, Intelligent Eggshell, Dhs305 for 2.5 litres; Littlegreene.eu

Everyday Earthenware tableware, from Dhs15, Zara Home

Toile de Nantes Bleu fabric, Dhs696 per roll, Pierre Frey

Repetto

Dream Ball ballerina shoes, Dhs680, Repetto

COLOUR SWATCH

Balance the palette with cool blues and coral pink

Glamore Lipstick Vendetta, Dhs150, Illamasqua



Cils Scintillants Jazzy Blue mascara, Blue Rhythm 2015 collection, Dhs170, Chanel



Radzimir Dress, Dhs2,669, Paule Ka

Radzimir Clutch, Dhs1,026 Paule Ka

Heritage Vienna Armchair, Dhs48,800, Aati

Ghida's Arabic Coffee Cup, Dhs40, Silsal Design House

Designers Guild Fresco Leaf Wallpaper, Dhs747 per roll, Basilica Throw, Dhs1,038, Maison D'art

Amazilia Cushions, Dhs316 each, Harlequin

Ferdinand Sneaker, Dhs402, Le Coq Sportif

Waterline stool by Cédric Ragot, Dhs1,900 Roche Bobois

Carre Ottoman, Dhs50,604, Mari Ianiq

Between Waves sofa, Dhs24,300, Insiderland

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Silver studded teddy and Christian Louboutin shoes atop vintage record player cases

MADE IN SHARJAH

Bazaar Interiors gets up close and personal with fabulous fashion designer **Essa Walla**



Essa Walla's AW15 Miss Naughty sequined dress, vintage saddle from Czebo Shah and art by Syrian artist Sabhan Adam

Sharjah isn't the obvious place for a fashion designer to set up and operate a globally recognised label. For Sharjite Essa Walla, the emirate is his life-long home and workshop, his label is his business and 'baby', and his eclectic apartment is his gallery and muse.

"When creativity is something you're born with it doesn't matter where you are," he states. Essa has lived in Al Majaz for 22 years and now owns two floors comprising of eight apartments. This is home to his mum, who moved from India to the UAE in the '60s, hundreds of dresses and spools and new designs, and his own creative space. His workshop is just a bridge away, next to the tailor where he went as gangly six-foot-tall teenager, customising his clothes so they would fit his lanky frame.

"My apartment is like Andy Warhol's factory," he muses. "Friends, family, fans and designers drop in all the time. It's a creative place for people to think and to be inspired. Like my fashion line and aesthetic, the décor is very eclectic and colourful. I like colour and change, modern art and design, and also vintage things that I can mix and juxtapose."

For the first time, the award-winning fashion designer – famous for his bright neoprene dresses and boho-luxe kaftans – is branching out into furniture, creating two large chairs for his apartment, upholstered in rare, 18th-century French fabric. The chair will also grace Cities' Galleria Mall store, although he's not sure whether it will be for sale – no doubt demand from customers will convince him otherwise. "They don't have a name yet; how about Louis XVI Big Bottom," he quips, giving us a glimpse of his wit.

From a vintage Ercol sofa upholstered in green chartreuse by The Odd Piece, to Alexander McQueen rugs and enough collectible art to make Christie's look twice, his apartment is a who's who of regional boutiques and international artists. You'll find framed Iranian calligraphic posters bought from a local souk for Dhs100 apiece, to priceless artwork from galleries such as The Third Line, Etemad Gallery, XVA, Ayyam and Carbon 12, where he bought Katherine Bernhard's famous painting of supermodel Gisele. "This is such a special piece and one of the biggest purchases I've made," he admits.

"I love Design Days Dubai and I'm looking forward to Downtown Design in October. It will be gorgeous and I'm so excited to see design at its purest form," he relays flamboyantly. "What do I have from S*uce?" he ponders the question for a moment. "Oh, everything! I retail in stores like S*uce, O'de Rose and Cities so I always buy from my sister concerns."

As well as Dubai's fashionable elite, Lada Gaga has been spotted wearing a sheer black Essa Walla dress during a visit to the city last year, and he's one of the most sought-after designers to showcase at Fashion Forward. He plans to return to the show in April – this autumn he just can't squeeze it in. September sees Essa flaunt a festive range for Diwali, his first foray into Indian wear, and launch an autumn-winter collection fashioned with the beautiful backpacker in mind. The next six months also includes two music videos and his debut lines of kids' wear, accessories, men's fine jewellery, and those big bottom chairs, of course. We can't wait to see what they look like in his treasure chest of an apartment. iloveessa.com ■

Gold tank from S*uce, vintage Chinese comic books, Gold Baby by Bitu Fayyazi



Gifts from S*uce fill this retro-modern cabinet. Right: restored Iranian calligraphic posters above colourful Floating Stools from Nada Debs

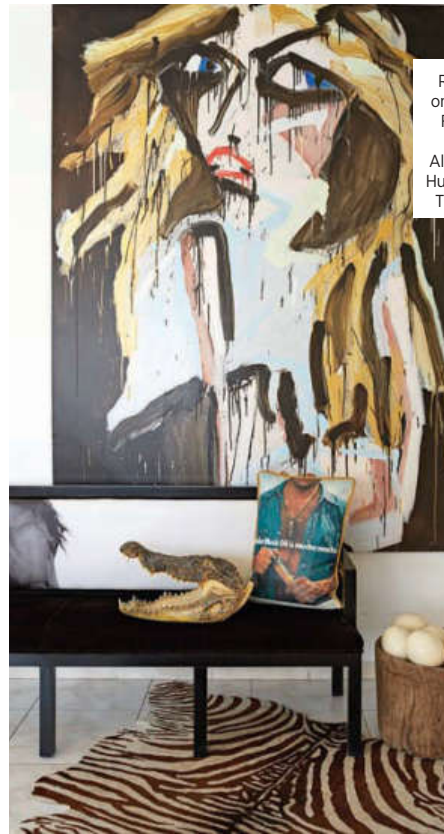


"TALENT IS A BIG WORD... YOU REALLY ARE BORN WITH THAT INSTINCT AND NOT EVERYONE HAS IT TO MANIFEST INTO CLOTHES, ARCHITECTURE OR PAINTING"

Essa Walla, fashion designer



Embellished red kaftan from Essa's AW15 collection, green Ercol sofa, Harry Allen's Banana Bowl from The Odd Piece, and artwork by Shideh Tami



Right: Louboutins on top of an orange Floating Stool by Nada Debs and Alexander McQueen Hummingbird rug for The Rug Company



Hamed Rashtian's No.1 sculpture from Khak Gallery Left: Katherine Bernhardt's Gisele painting from Carbon 12



Right: Flower Market enamelware is garden fresh
Far right: The Kaleidoscope Wingchair and Footstool shimmer with colour

An English eccentric at heart but with New York roots, MacKenzie-Childs is the latest multicultural expatriate to land on our shores. A new collaboration with Bloomingdale's Home in The Dubai Mall sees the playful brand put on a show-stopping performance with its first major retail partner in the Middle East.

From Alice-in-Wonderland-style three-tiered tea pots, to the iconic Courty Check pattern, to bright floral chintz and patchworks of shiny Maharaja fabrics, everything about the brand is bold and animated.

"We are so excited about the launch," says Rebecca Proctor gleefully. The enthusiasm that the company's creative director has is infectious, and reverberates strongly with the playful, humorous aesthetic it's synonymous with. "We are about contrast and statement – it's a style you don't typically see in the Middle East luxury market. We were paid the highest compliment once, being labelled the 'court jester of tabletop'. But I see us as more – as the court jester of home. You can have an accent table tucked away in the corner of a room, and I swear it will wink at you when you walk in, because it's a fun, happy product. I think this will be something that Dubai's consumers will cherish."

This is MacKenzie-Childs's second venture with Bloomingdale's Home, having partnered with the luxury department store in Chicago.

They are stocked in many boutiques around the world, including several in the Emirates. It already has sell-out collections on Neimanmarcus.com, a steady Arabian clientele at their concession store in Harrods, London, and high demand from customers to produce a range of Turkish coffee cups. "Bringing colour, pattern and play into the traditional culture of tea and coffee in the UAE would be wonderful," she says, before conjuring up camel-inspired patterns and desert tea parties. "We are never afraid to try new things – the sky is the limit."

MacKenzie-Childs's own home is just as unconventional as its furnishings and accessories. Since 1983 the company headquarters and workshop has been nestled within a tranquil Victorian farm, near the charming village of Aurora in the state of New York. One imagines the artisans pottering away like North Pole elves, painting away merrily, and bursting into song when a dish or sideboard is completed.

With furniture such as The Kaleidoscope Accent Chair promising 'a Broadway melody of magic, wit, and candy-striped enchantment,' it's hard not to feel enticed by the whimsy. +971 4 350 5397 ■



Below: Fall in love with these Courty Check Heart Bowls



WORDS BY ELEANOR JOSLIN

WELCOME THE WHIMSY

*Shopping for furniture just got seriously fun, as **MacKenzie-Childs** arrives in Bloomingdale's Home*



Above: The signature Courty Check pattern was first called Roasted Marshmallow until it was dubbed the 'court jester of tabletop'

Right: Greenhouse adds festival spirit to the pool



The Winter Palaces chandelier illuminates the room with lithophane and porcelain



—DESIGN— ICON

Lladró *reinvents the classic*

Spanish brand Lladró, known for its porcelain figurines, reinvents classic silhouettes in its most recent lighting collections, Winter Palace and Mademoiselle.

“By recreating traditional lamps with porcelain the sensation these lamps transmit, in comparison with those made in other materials, is a greater sense of warmth,” says Francisco Conojero, Lladró’s worldwide lighting manager, who was recently in Dubai on a world tour celebrating the Winter Palaces chandelier. “We have the idea that classic designs are always fashionable, it just depends on the context.” This decorative lighting piece replaces classic glass with porcelain and staid fabric lampshades with lithophanes, which, when lit, illuminates evocative etchings on the shades’ surfaces. “We presented the Winter Palaces Collection here in the UAE because we value this market, where there is a high knowledge about decoration and interior design,” explains Francisco. Lladró in The Dubai Mall is currently hosting one of three limited editions of Queen of the Nile that remain for sale, at Dhs900,000. Only 100 figurines were made of this exquisite porcelain boat carrying the Queen lost in thought, flanked by royal oarsmen and musicians. All Lladró porcelains are made by hand in Valencia in much the same manner as the three co-founding brothers Juan, José and Vicente Lladró, when they began firing their first artistic porcelain figurines in a Moorish furnace in 1953. Francisco unveiled details of another special lighting collection called Mademoiselle, which reinterprets the brand’s iconic ladies in a new and colourful language. With their dainty hats in pastel colours and ladylike attire, the collection evokes a 19th-century nostalgia, while the clean silhouettes keep it fresh and modern. *Visit Lladró at Downtown Design, d3, October 27-30; lladro.com* ■

Content curation from the web to the shop floor has become an essential skill required to make sense of today's overwhelming supermarket of choice. When editing a magazine or curating a design fair you are using the same part of your brain that has been conditioned by experience – and if you've lived a long time in the UAE and witnessed the staggering velocity of evolution here you learn to move with it, and get a natural feel for what the region loves.

Putting this passion for beautiful things into practice in a 6,000-square-metre tent – where things are not safely tucked into their rightful place on a page but are large, looming three-dimensional structures that have been designed and built at great expense... Now that is an entirely different thing.

Today's design consumer is more switched on than ever, more demanding, more confident and more cost-conscious than ever before. So while the curation has to be aesthetically coherent, it needs to be substantial too. You can't show pretty things just because they're pretty. Like everything else today, it's all about giving people an experience – one they can't get anywhere else. One, like our mission for this year's show, that allows each visitor to discover something they hadn't yet realised they wanted or needed, inspired with innovation, and, like all good design, provides a solution to a problem.

For those that know me well, I can't resist a challenge, so changing up from the glamour, comfort (and distance) of editing, to the up-close, personal and very live performance of an



TREND HUNTER

*Fair Director **Rue Kothari** takes us behind the scenes of this year's Downtown Design*

Above: Se Ti Guardo rug from Illulian, part of the luxury line-up at Downtown Design
Right: Hello Lumio's innovative LED 'book light' is adaptable technology at its best



exhibition, was just too big to ignore. Now, looking at my very full floorplan, a mix of well established and emerging design brands, special projects and an ambitious public programme, I can't believe how far we've come since January – and how close we are to DTD-day.

Being part of the inaugural Dubai Design Week has been the cherry on the cake – it's not often you have a ringside seat to something so epic. Downtown Design is working with its Destinations initiative, welcoming six other international design weeks and their respective directors to expose their country's rising stars within a curated booth, something that will help to boost their commercial opportunity in the region and allow visitors to discover new talent.

Not only does this add to the diversity of this year's fair, but with twice the number of exhibitors occupying a pavilion double the size of last year, it is even more important to ensure that we pay attention to all those little details. Enlisting the

considerable talents of Studio M founder, Abboud Malak, to creatively direct the common spaces of the fair – its look and feel – from the entrance to the auditorium, will establish a strong design narrative throughout the space and create an exciting new experience for visitors.

It's been a vertical learning curve; a trajectory only made possible by an insanely good-humoured team, who have been in equal parts both patient and supportive of me throughout. And at the risk of descending into nauseating Oscar-speech territory, those little lights of wisdom that have been shone on me from my design heroes (cue namedropping), who I've bumped into everywhere this year, from London and Paris to Milan, and our artfully scruffy loft office at the Index Tower in DIFC. Now all that's left is to enjoy the ride, of what promises to be a truly epic week for design in Dubai.

To visit Downtown Design, register at Downtowndesign.com ■



Beijing Design Week will feature up-and-coming furniture brand Zaozuo

hansgrohe



When the shower becomes an Interior Designer
Rainmaker Select

www.hansgrohe-middleeast.com



JUNIOR JOTUN

Mums will welcome the news of paint specialist Jotun launching a kids range in sophisticated hues. Forget clichéd pastel pinks and baby blues; try Jotun's bright coral, olive green and midnight blue. jotun.com



Printed Jesse
Armchair,
Dhs2,361, Blanc
D'Ivoire

NEW ARRIVAL

Dubai welcomes France's latest export, Blanc D'Ivoire, to Al Wasl Road. Since 1994, founder Monic Fisher has created a brand that will soon become your go-to choice for comfort and easy elegance, with fashionable influences. Every room of the house is catered for, achieving a 360° lifestyle concept.

+971 4 321 89 58



Ahead of the OUD Palao launch, our favourite Diptyque fragrance is Eau Rose, Dhs410, 100ml

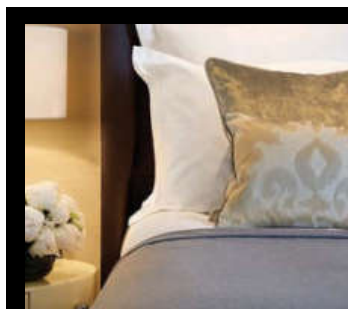
ILLUMINATING DESIGN

Diptyque has been busy. Working with the lighting designers behind the industrial spotlights at Hai d3, .PSLAB, the Paris store at 34 Boulevard Saint-Germain has a fresh new look. In Dubai, Jumeirah Zabeel Saray hosted the worldwide launch of Diptyque's new OUD Palao fragrance and candle, exclusive to the region. +971 4 330 8423

SHOPPING

Muse over these latest must-buys for AW15

NEWS



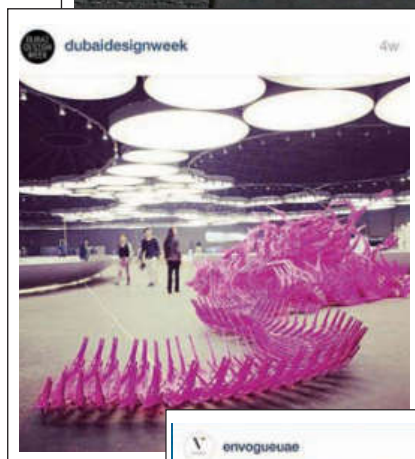
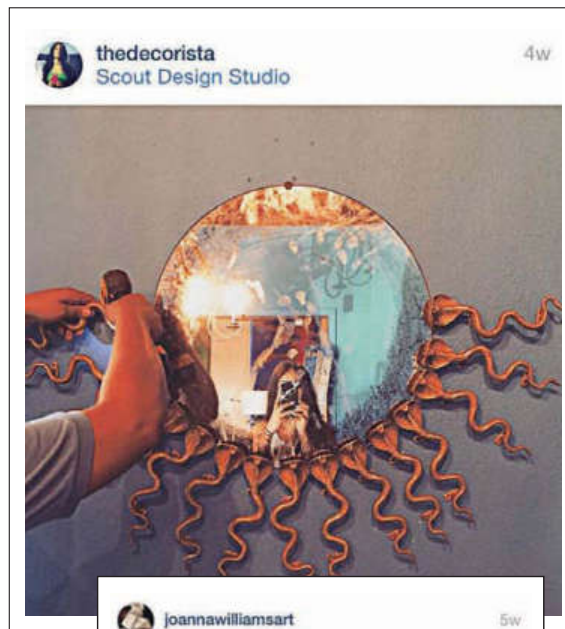
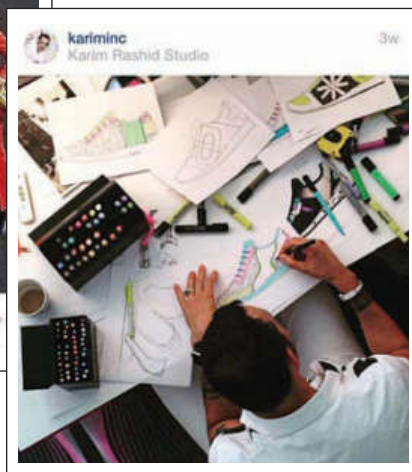
FRONT COVER TO BED COVERS

Our beautiful cover star from *Bazaar Interiors* May/June, Brigitta Spinocchia Freund, has launched her much-anticipated debut linen collection, which features four distinct styles. Made in Italy from 100% white Egyptian cotton, SF Linen ensures unmistakable quality for both modern and classic interiors with exquisite detailing, such as monogramming and sumptuous trims and borders. spinocchiafreund.com

Bazaar loves... It's imperative to take care of your skin in the desert heat, and Kiehl's ambassadorial collaboration with Emirati designer Khalid Shafar and Noor Bani Hashim, cofounder of Dinner Club by No. 57, presents an enticing way for design and food lovers to hydrate their skin. Khalid's signature label for Kiehl's Ultra Facial Cream is a carousel of Headless Horses, his bespoke cabinet for Moissonnier. +971 4 330 8843



Left: Red, white and black... the perfect design combination, uplifted here with a dramatic artistic twist
Below: Karim Rashid takes us behind the scenes, sketching shoe designs in his studio



Above: A vision in pink at Beijing Design Week, where Dubai will be a guest city from September 24
Right: An alluring, minimalist design from En Vogue's latest partnership, Verpan



INSTA LIFE

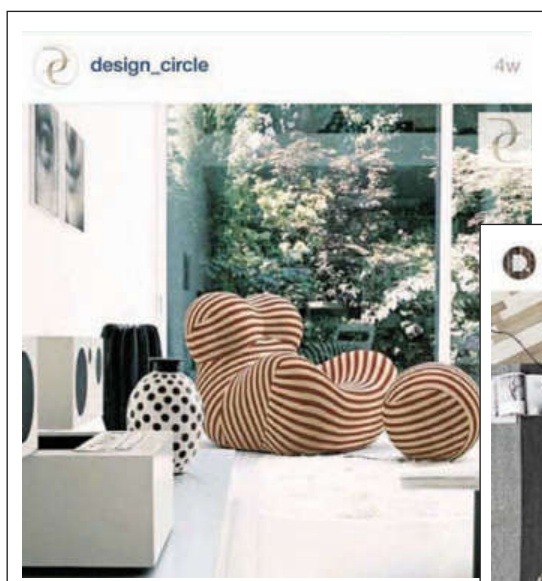
Go talent-spotting on Instagram, where there's a global school of design behind the lens



Above top: thedecorista puts the finishing touches to a unique sunburst mirror, custom-made with brass snake door handles
Above: 3D cardboard modules in the making



Right: Garance Doré captures a pattern on the floor conveying her love for minimalist, clean lines



Above: B&B Italia's Serie UP 2000 lounge chair knows how to make a statement



Left: The Cover Chair, Around Tables and Leaf Lamp set on a Varjo rug by Muuto



Above: Champion 'craft cool' with artisanal attention to detail on Nada Deb's vintage chest

Enter a world of style

HOUSE of BAZAAR

Open the door to a world of fashion, style and wellness as Harper's Bazaar comes to life at Mall of the Emirates, in celebration of the iconic retail destination's 10th anniversary. Let our editors from fashion, art and interiors guide you through the season's most coveted ready-to-wear clothes, fashionable furniture and collectible artwork

Illustrations by MEGAN HESS

Start your aspirational journey through the House in the Wellness Retreat, hosted by *Harper's Bazaar's* deputy editor Emily Baxter and food editor Dalia Dogmoch Soubra, who will treat you to a cutting-edge culinary presentation surrounded by the latest in sleek kitchenware and luxury leisure brands for the ultimate health, wellness and lifestyle experience.

From there, enter the Bazaar Closet, full of the season's essential accessories and key buys from exclusive collections only available at Mall of the Emirates. As you admire our hand-picked selection for autumn/winter, sit back comfortably in the finest furniture from the mall's most beautiful home stores.

Next, you will be welcomed into Bazaar's Boudoir, an unapologetically feminine space where cosmetics and skincare top the agenda, surrounded by luxury home accessories. Hosted by Giorgio Armani's regional face designer Raja Daniel, you will receive a personal face consultation and gain expert guidance on the products that will create your most flawless look ever. Apply your new beauty regimen with the most beautiful of looking glasses and vanity units, merging the worlds of high fashion and haute design.

Finally, enter the Gallery and be transported into the calligraphic

studio of iconic French-Tunisian artist eL Seed, who's collaborated with the likes of Louis Vuitton. In the Bazaar Gallery you'll witness bespoke pieces created especially for the House of Bazaar. Melding graphic street graffiti with elegant Arabic calligraphy, eL Seed is one of the world's most exciting names in urban art. As you get up close amongst the instruments of his craft, you may be fortunate enough to meet the artist himself, as he'll be making personal appearances at select times.

While waiting for your tour, and throughout the five days of World of Fashion, we invite you to meet and mingle in the Bazaar Garden, where guests will enjoy live music, a vibrant atmosphere and plenty of photo opportunities.

By night, the House of Bazaar will transform into a chic show space, where intimate fashion presentations will take place, showcasing key trends from A/W15. To inaugurate the house, iconic Lebanese singer Elissa will be making an appearance on the opening night, September 15, and taking part in an intimate conversation with *Harper's Bazaar*.

For your chance to experience a private tour of the House with our editors between 2pm and 5pm, September 15 to 17, please log on to Harpersbazaarakarabia.com/houseofbazaar to register your details and win an invitation. Or visit us on the public days, September 18 and 19, when the House is open to all our readers. We look forward to seeing you there. ►

HOUSE OF BAZAAR

10







Fashion, accessories, shoes

Indulge in the wardrobe of your dreams inside the Bazaar Closet, with all the essential buys for autumn/winter handpicked by *Harper's Bazaar's* fashion editors. Beautify your body and skincare regimen in the Bazaar Boudoir, decorated with the most sumptuous furnishings and elegant accessories.

Wellness, interiors, health

From your morning milk latte to the chic furniture, art and technology that defines your home, the *Bazaar* lifestyle encapsulates the very best in wellness, interiors and graceful living. From Gallery to Garden, experience a world of elegant living solutions.

Harper's BAZAAR *INTERIORS* *DESIGN* awards 2015

ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER
28 2015 WE PRESENT THE SECOND
HARPER'S BAZAAR INTERIORS
DESIGN AWARDS, GIVING
LUXURY DESIGN BRANDS IN THE
REGION THE OPPORTUNITY
TO BE RECOGNISED AND
REWARDED BY BOTH
INDUSTRY AND CONSUMERS.

To start voting, please visit the website and place
your nomination for each of the 12 categories.

harpersbazaarinteriorsawards.com



Harper's BAZAAR DESIGN FOCUS

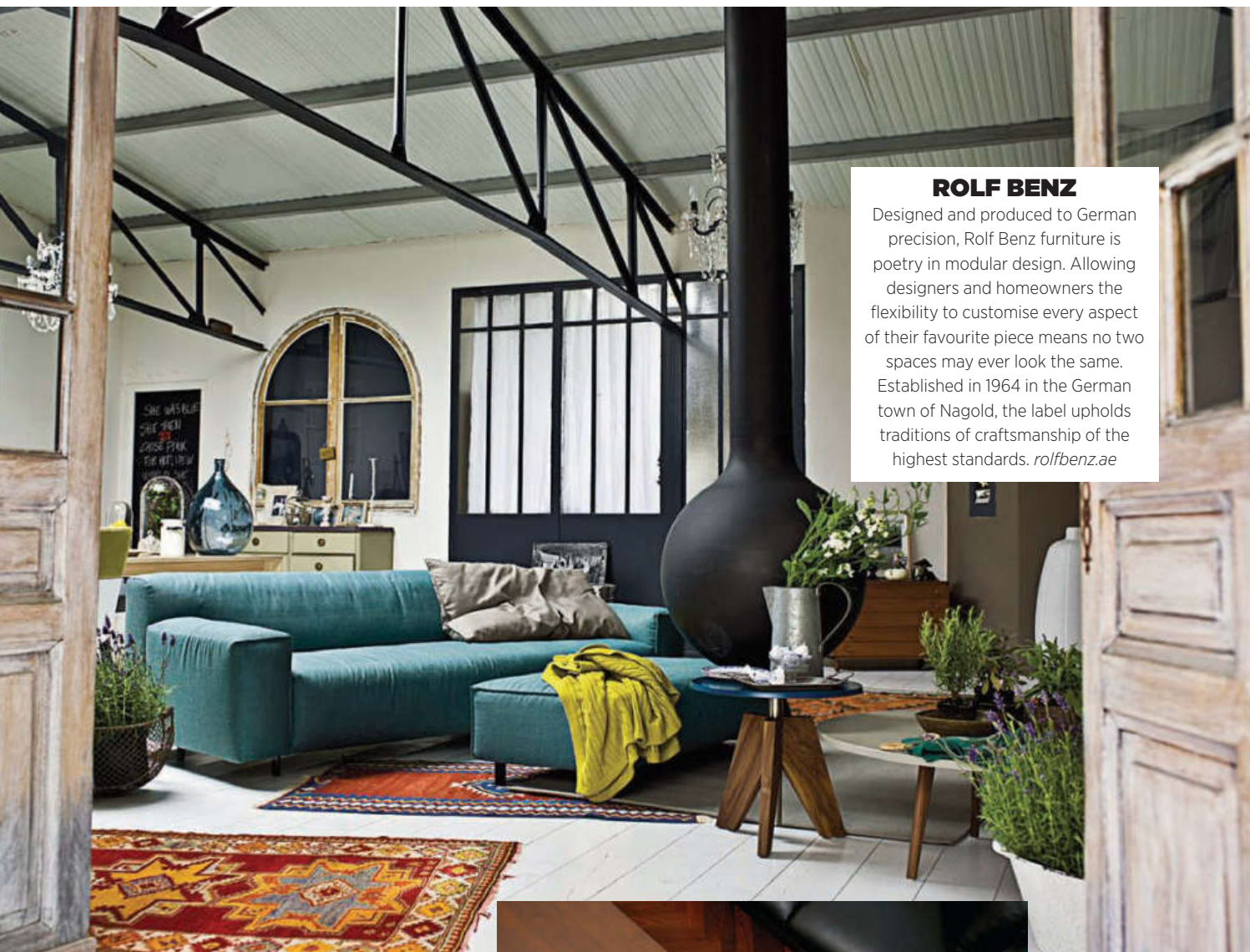
DESIGNED FOR
EXCELLENCE

*Now in its third edition,
Downtown Design
– the region's only show
dedicated to premium
product – reflects the
growing aspirations of
our creative class*

Words by PRATYUSH SARUP



The One Skin chair by Ron Arad for Moroso is just one of the design icons waiting to be discovered at Downtown Design 2015



ROLF BENZ

Designed and produced to German precision, Rolf Benz furniture is poetry in modular design. Allowing designers and homeowners the flexibility to customise every aspect of their favourite piece means no two spaces may ever look the same. Established in 1964 in the German town of Nagold, the label upholds traditions of craftsmanship of the highest standards. rolfbenz.ae



Above: The Grata Sofa designed by Christian Werner for Rolf Benz
Left: Chabros, the region's leading name in wood and veneer, is known for innovation in its field
Below: Moroso presents Ross Lovegrove's iconic Diatom chair

With some of the best international and regional design brands on show and a well-curated roster of the brightest names in design sharing their valuable insights with the region, Downtown Design 2015 is bigger, better and more driven than ever before.

"Downtown Design is unique in its philosophy," explains Fair Director Rue Kothari. "It's a trade show for the professionals, and without compromising standards of original, high-quality design, creativity and innovation, the show ultimately works towards a broad appreciation of authentic design and true quality – key to the growth of our own creative industries." By carefully reviewing every application for exhibition, her team is able to create a rare environment of established and emerging regional and international brands covering a range of product categories.

From last year's offerings under a 3,000-square-foot marquee, The Venue, in Downtown Dubai, to inhabiting a venue twice that size at its new home in Dubai Design District, the growth of the show reflects the burgeoning size and diversity of the region's design market.

"When I first moved to the UAE 11 years ago to oversee the interiors of the DIFC development, design in the region was very superfluous," says Abboud Malak, one of the Emirate's leading names in architecture and design, founder of Studio M and the man entrusted with setting the mood of key public spaces at this year's edition of Downtown Design. "As we move onto design conversations that delve deeper into authenticity, the region's demand for shows of this stature couldn't have been timed better."

From the design professional seeking to establish working relationships, to regional brands needing a dynamic platform from which to meet key players in the industry, or design ►



MUUBS

Known for designing products and furniture exclusively in raw materials, this Danish brand is valued for its naturalistic take on urban design. Established in 2010 by Bent and Dorthe Povlsen, the brand focusses on unique products presenting the forces of nature and an authentic spirit with a masculine twist. Here, the label has expertly contoured recycled and new teakwood into a rustic collection of kitchen utensils. muubs.com





Arwa Hafiz's Dubai-based boutique The Odd Piece represents the region at Downtown Design

enthusiasts discovering new products, the show's spirit has always been one that inspires and educates. To have brands such as kitchen design experts Hacker and Gaggenau, American bathwork specialists Kohler, and an entire section dedicated to the very best of Italian labels, all in one space opens a new world of possibilities for professionals and consumers alike.

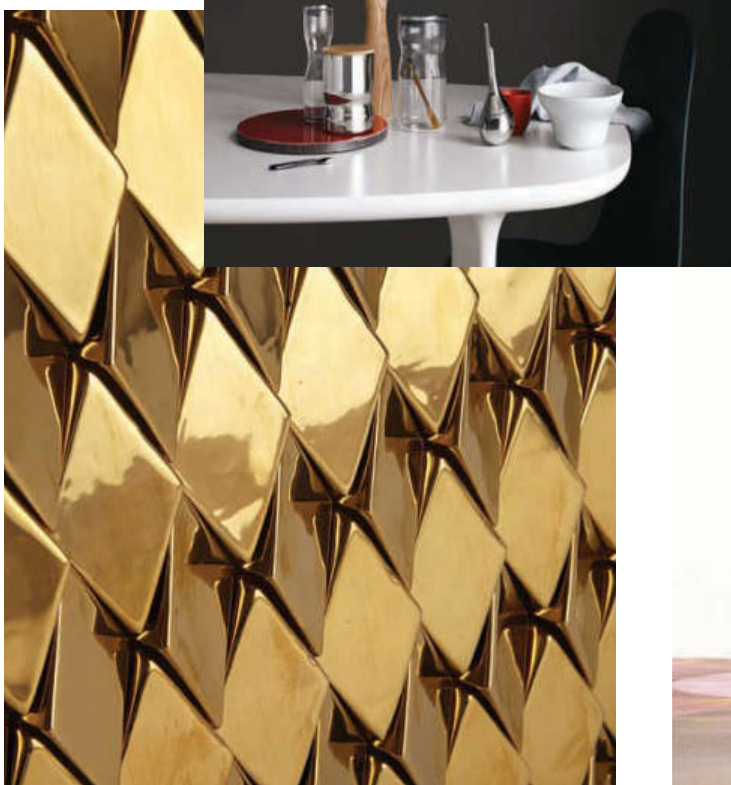
"The access the show provides to world-class design is truly commendable," concurs Laurence Dehlen, regional sales manager at Purity, the region's leading source for high-end interior solutions. "Elevating the standard of design-related exhibitions in Dubai, the show also helps educate designers and their clients on the value of their interior choices and allows room for regional brands to grow, too."

The appetite for regional creative talent is growing; as the retail and consumer market in the Middle East increases, so too does the opportunity for a thriving home-grown creative sector. "Substandard design just wouldn't cut it anymore," explains Emirati designer Aljoud Lootah. "We need to ensure our works can hold their own against the best that the world has to offer. We need to dig deep within ourselves to create design experiences that are of the region but also globally applicable. Only then will we be taken seriously."

That is exactly what Abboud has planned for Downtown Design. "Let's look at design as a tool to creating an experience," he says, about his designs for the new pavilion. "Designing the VIP lounge, the auditorium and café at the show, I seek to create spaces of calm and reflection amidst the creative and visual stimuli."

Downtown Design 2015 offers a plethora of opportunities for design discoveries. On one ➤

Arclinea Convivium Design Kitchen by Antonio Citterio



Left: Industry leaders Jotun present their designer range of paint, such as 'Elegant' grey
Below: A rainbow of Ferruccio Laviani's Battery lamps, at Kartell.
Bottom left: Luxurious Wellington gold tiles by Giles Miller Studio at Kens & Company





ARCLINEA

The Italian haute kitchen design brand is known for its innovative solutions that bridge functionality with the latest technology, feeding the human spirit that loves to cook and entertain. From sinuous taps to meticulously designed cabinets, architect Antonio Citterio helms the company, ensuring unique kitchens that tastefully fit your lifestyle. arclinea.it



From chic Christofle to the uber-cool Georg Jensen, Downtown Design offers a vast array of tableware brands

“THE SHOW ULTIMATELY WORKS TOWARDS A BROAD APPRECIATION OF AUTHENTIC DESIGN AND TRUE QUALITY – KEY TO THE GROWTH OF OUR OWN CREATIVE INDUSTRIES”

Rue Kothari, Fair Director at Downtown Design



THE BAZAAR HOTLIST

With more than eighty luxury labels set to wow us at Downtown Design 2015, make sure you don't miss these brands from around the world:

Christofle: From great artists like Man Ray and Cocteau to architects like Gio Ponti and modernist silversmiths such as Lino Sabattini, Christofle – the French master of silverware – is known to collaborate with creative greats of the time. Today's celebrated designers collaborating with The Maison Christofle include Andrée Putman, Marcel Wanders, Jean-Marie Massaud and Ora Ito. Elegant, timeless and certainly without chintz, a Christofle piece is an heirloom. christofle.com

Georg Jensen: The Danish lifestyle brand offers a wide selection of accessories and essentials for the home designed to bring an artistic quality to everyday living. Unique materials, unparalleled craftsmanship and refined colours back the brand's partnerships with global design stars like Constantin Wortmann, Aldo Bakker and Helena Rohner, amongst others, each bringing their distinct approach to artistic innovation to the table. georgjensen.com

Hansgrohe: The Select bathroom and kitchen range – an industry first boasting of operation at the touch of a sleek button – will be the focal point of the German brand's second turn at the design show. The collection, which includes overhead showers, bathroom and kitchen mixers, is designed to elevate your aquatic home experiences to greater heights of luxury. hansgrohe-middleeast.com

Kartell: Established in 1949, this family-run design power-house has come to be one of the strongest symbols of Italian design prowess the world over. Making plastic fantastic by collaborating with the biggest names in modern design like Philippe Starck and Patricia Urquiola, and constantly challenging the limits of his production house, Claudio Luti has every design lover coveting a piece of Kartell. kartell.com

Kens & Company: The Dubai-based haute interior finishes boutique has become the chosen supplier to some of the most luxurious homes and hotels around the world. From effervescent three-dimensional tiles rendered in gold to fragile cut-steel filigree panels, and wall coverings made bespoke in semiprecious stones like blue agate, if you're searching for the ultimate in design luxury, look no further. kensandcompany.com

Walter Knoll: The brand Wilhelm Knoll established in 1865 in a leather shop in Stuttgart, Germany, is now one of the most respected lifestyle companies in the world. Along the way its master craftsmen, designers and engineers have revolutionised the furniture world, illuminating its history with path-breaking patents, new-age materials and an enviable catalogue of timeless design icons, like the Barcelona chairs by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Lilly Reich. walterknoll.de

BROKIS

Combining traditional, hand-blown bohemian glass with extraordinary materials like wood and hand-pressed metal, this Czech label pushes the boundaries of contemporary lighting design. Known as much for cutting-edge lighting technology as they are for their bold design compositions, Brokis' extensive portfolio boasts modern, functional lighting fixtures as well as specially commissioned lighting installations. brokis.cz

Brokis' Shadow pendant lamps add an industrial edge

hand, the show brings international industry heavyweights to the region with the likes of Lalique presenting Damien Hirst's famous butterfly collection, and Lasvit bringing the internationally acclaimed Supernova light to Dubai. On the other, contemporary lifestyle labels like Kartell, Lebanese luxury rugs company Samovar, and the market leaders in paint, Jotun, will present collections edited to suit regional lifestyles and tastes.

"Ultimately, Downtown Design provides a focal point for active professionals in the design industry to get together, network and do business," concludes Rue. Bolstering that intent is a strong public programme of talks and seminars directed at the professional audience. "From trend experts to business leaders in the field of design, as well as industry organisations like the International Interior Design Association and the Society of British Interior Designers, who will present winning projects from some of the world's newest cities, our talks will provide insight and knowledge that will help interior designers, architects and buyers who are all looking for a competitive advantage."

Visit *Downtown Design at Dubai Design District, October 27 to 30; downtowndesign.com* ■



The Jaan Living sofa designed by EOOS for Walter Knoll

GOING GLOBAL

Dedicated to emerging brands that have never before appeared on the global stage, *Destinations* is a special project by Dubai Design Week and Downtown Design that will play host to six international design weeks. In exchange, Dubai will showcase the UAE's regional talent at these global shows, as the honorary guest city.



Rough Diamond Chandelier by Jonathan Ben Tovim, based in Melbourne

small part by Helsinki Design Week established in 2005. Brands Nikari, Saas and Johanna Gullichsen will demonstrate Finland's fast evolving design ethos. helsinkidesignweek.com

ISTANBUL: Expressed as a symbiotic exchange between the city and the varied schools of design, Istanbul Design Week celebrates Turkey's diversity and chaotic harmony through creative expression. Bridging the historic

country's glorious past with the present are brands like Day Studio, Escape from Sofa and Halit Berker. istanbuldesignweek.com

MELBOURNE:

Curated to highlight the role of design as a catalyst for technological innovation, economic growth and societal change, Melbourne Design Week presents opportunities for local and international design brands to interact and build relationships. Extending a hand to Dubai are Christopher Boots, Andre Hnatjoko and Jonathan Ben Tovim. designmattersvictoria.com

MEXICO: Bringing the various disciplines of design closer to society, Abierto Mexicano De Diseño is the only design festival of its kind in Latin America. Its 2014 edition saw monumental installations commissioned by international designers like floral artist Azuma Makoto and light designer Moritz Waldemeyer. For Dubai Design Week, it brings LCMX, Tributo and Ediciones Jalapa. abiertodediseno.mx

SAN FRANCISCO: From technical innovation courtesy of Silicon Valley to cultural revolutions, the city's contribution to change, both in the United States and the world over, cannot be ignored. San Francisco Design Week opens portals for discussion, debate and exploration centred on unique design. Brands Hello Lumio, Design Council and Galanter & Jones. represent. sfdesignweek.org



Nikari's April tables from Helsinki

BEIJING: Since its launch in 2009, Beijing Design Week has strived to nurture a culture of design in a Chinese context. Through a series of public events and an international exhibition, the event serves as an incubator for innovative perspectives. Brands Benwu Studio, EOQ and Zaozuo are set to challenge our perceptions of the Asian superpower. beijingdesignweek.org

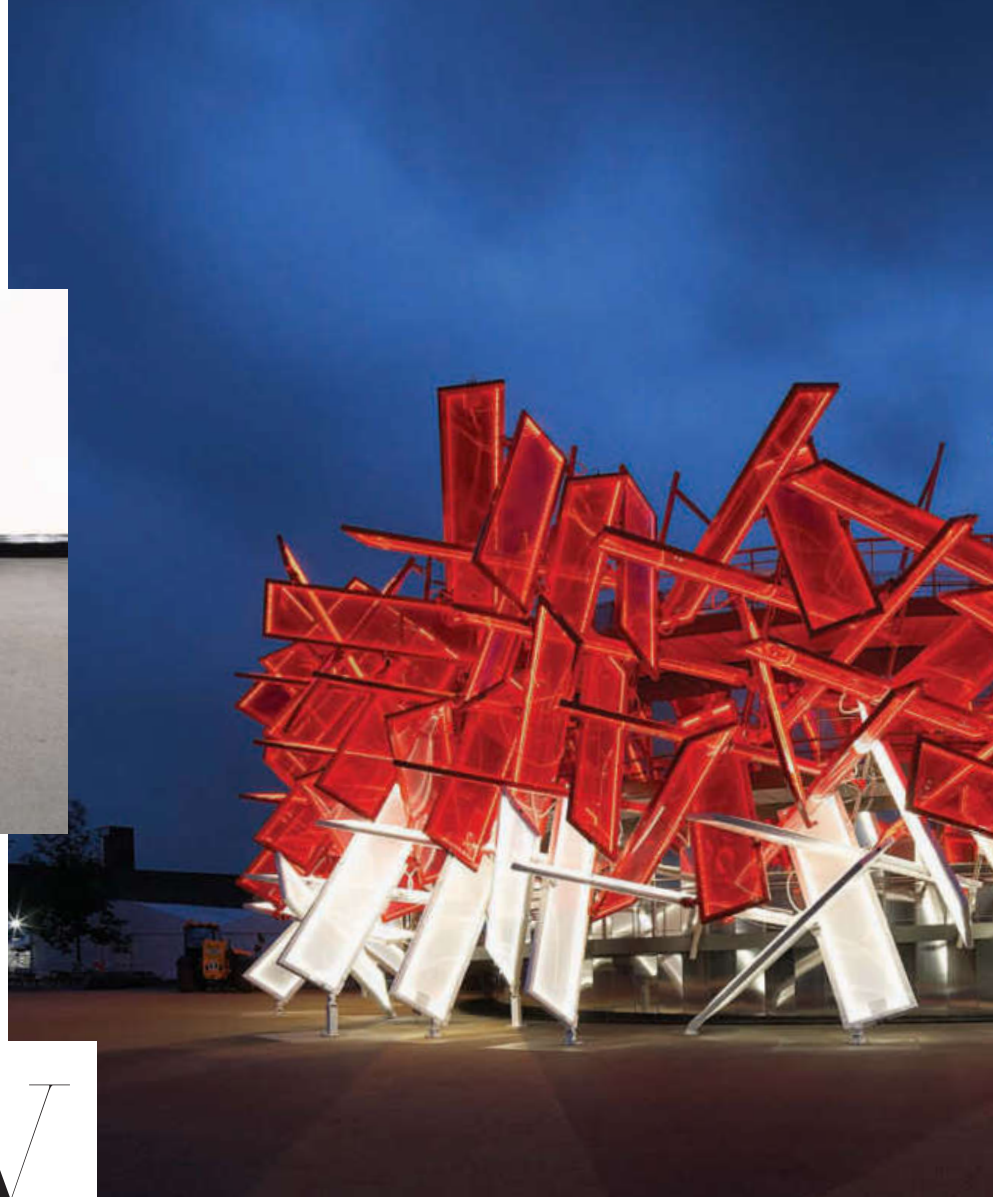
HELSINKI: With the award for its Guggenheim Museum competition announced earlier this year, the Nordic city has been making international headlines for its design revolution, abled in no



Istanbul Design Week is a colourful event with Day Studio



The award-winning Stratum Chair by Ammar Kalo, one of the regional designers selected for the UAE pavilion



DUBAI'S TIME IS NOW

*With its inaugural edition set for October, **Dubai Design Week 2015** opens a gateway of opportunities for our burgeoning design capital* Words by PRATYUSH SARUP

Why does any city need a design week? Ask London, Milan or Beijing; revered or newly cemented, their reputations as leading international design capitals is built – in good measure – around calendar events designed for cultural and creative exchange.

"Dubai has long been a point of convergence of ideas," says Cyril Zammit, head of design at Art Dubai Group, organisers of Dubai Design Week, which takes place October 26 to 31. "As we strive towards establishing our city as a global design destination, a design week offers design professionals and aficionados a tailor-made platform to explore local, regional and international design talent."

"You simply can't ignore Dubai," says the UK-born architect Asif Khan. "From its towering skyscrapers to rejuvenation projects at community level, design has become part of the city's urban fabric. A design week is the logical next step." One of the many designers who will dot the city with commissioned installations for Dubai Design Week, Asif, a Cannes Lion winner known for mega-scale, technology-driven urban experiences, will unveil an observatory-inspired interactive work in the Emirate.

Coletivo Amor de Madre from Brazil and Dubai's own Khalid Shafar are just some of the other international and regional designers set to engage the city with never-before-seen public works.

The six-day event breaks from the standard design week tradition of focusing on the national market by inviting six international design weeks to participate, positioning the Emirate as a unique centre of global discovery. "Exchange is the key to growth," explains Cyril. "These partner design weeks will, in turn, showcase Dubai's local design talent at their own respective events."

Beijing Design Week will be the first to host Dubai as a guest city, from September 23 to October 1.

With an eye on furthering creative exchange via design education, Dubai Design Week will also host eight internationally reputed design schools at the Global Grad

S*UCE AND SMITH

The Design Shop by S*uce is partnering with LA street artist Paige Smith who will beautify the crevices and cracks in the city's walls and pavements with her unique urban geode installations, made mostly from paper or resin and spray paint.



"I'm excited about experiencing the duality of Dubai. It will be challenging to express my work in both the old and new areas, and make them unite in some way," Paige Smith

LOCI's concept for the Abwab pavilions shun clichéd design codes. Below: The Zaviya coffee table by Coalesce, the studio of Pakistani curator Salman Jawed



ABWAB - THE CURATORS

Dubai's Mobius Design Studio takes charge of the UAE pavilion; award-winning Egyptian architect and artist Waleed Shaalan represents his adopted country Kuwait; Karachi-based industrial designer Salman Jawed will shed new light on Pakistan; sisters Basma and Noura Bouzo invites us into Saudi Arabia's burgeoning creative scene; Jordanian collective Arini will curate the Hashemite kingdom's space; architect Chacha Atallah lends her unique vision to the Tunisian pavilion.

A specially commissioned work by Asif Khan will be unveiled at Dubai Design Week. Shown here, the Coca-Cola Beatbox for the London Olympics



Culture, Dubai-based architectural firm LOCI has been entrusted with creating their purpose-built environments. "Part of the challenge was in creating an environment that was neutral enough to let each country shine and yet remain true to Dubai's identity without playing into the oft exploited regional design clichés," explains Hamza Omari, industrial designer at LOCI. Playing on concepts of bio-mimicry, the designers turned to the most abundant natural regional resource, sand, juxtaposed against weather-resistant polycarbonate sheets to create a flexible, multi-panel space that will allow each curator to reconfigure their pavilion to best showcase their heritage. "We wanted to create a space where the external and the inside experience merge. We're very excited to share the fruits of our design exploration with the world," adds Hamad Khoory, architect and partner at LOCI.

Dubai Design Week, October 26 to 31; dubaidesignweek.ae ■

"IT'S AN EVENT BY THE CITY, FOR THE CITY. WE'RE WORKING WITH PROVEN INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS TO MAKE IT A REGIONAL SUCCESS"

Nez Gebreel, CEO, DDFC

Show 2015. Post-graduate students from Royal College of Arts (London), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Pratt Institute (New York City), National University Singapore, Keio Graduate School of Media Design (Tokyo), Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (Daejeon, South Korea), Hong Kong Polytech and Tsinghua University (Beijing) will showcase works in the Middle East's fastest growing design economy.

Tipping its hat to the city that spearheaded the Middle East's design revolution, Dubai Design Week invites noted Lebanese designer Rana Salam to curate Brilliant Beirut – a study of the Levantine city through design. "Brilliant Beirut will showcase the evolution of the city from the 1950s to today, pinpointing key moments and designers that have shaped the city's urban and creative landscape," says Rana.

Abwab – Dubai Design Week's gateway initiative – will host some of the most path-breaking design stars from the UAE, Kuwait, Pakistan, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia at Dubai Design District (d3). As designers from each country set about defining their country's aesthetic to a global audience under the theme of Game: The Element of Play in



Fresh from debuting his Nomad installation at London's Shubbak Festival in July, Dubai's Khalid Shafar will present another innovative work

THE JURY IS IN

*Meet the renowned judges on
the panel of this year's
inimitable Harper's Bazaar
Interiors Design Awards 2015*

Words by *ELEANOR JOSLIN*

The success of the region's first ever consumer Design Awards last October, hosted by *Harper's Bazaar* Interiors, showed that it was high time we had an event that celebrated and honoured design excellence and innovation – not just from the UAE but from around the world, too.

Working in partnership with luxury trade show Downtown Design, this year's awards ceremony will be held in Dubai on Wednesday October 28. With schemes such as the emirate's inaugural Design Week and Downtown Design putting regional craftsmen and companies on the global stage, it's exciting to be part of the city's shift onto the international design scene, and to champion both local and emerging brands alongside long-established giants in the premium market.

For weeks, readers have been clamoring to place their nominations, and I'm thrilled to announce that the voting lines are now open. Go online to Harpersbazaarinteriorsawards.com and start electing the brands that epitomise each of the 12 categories to be celebrated at the ceremony, including best regional furniture brand, most eco-conscious store and best interior designer.

As an editor, it's such an honour to reverse the role and see what the readers have to say. Giving voice to your votes and the judges' decisions, the Design Awards is an authoritative expression of the brands that both consumer and industry experts believe to be the best. And while shortlisting the brands you've nominated as supreme in their sectors will be no easy task, making those difficult decisions is an exciting prospect, especially when these seven esteemed judges will be joining me on the jury panel.



Lee Broom
appreciates
Middle East
design talent

A contemporary
family home by
Spinocchia Freund



Christian
Lacroix's
colourful
Nouveaux
Mondes



DDFC CEO Nez
Gebreel knows
fashion and furniture



Sacha Walckhoff will recognise a brand's credentials



Interior designer Brigitta Spinocchia Freund has high standards of luxury



CCA tutor Lyndall Fernie will mark the nominees fairly

BRIGITTA SPINOCCHIA FREUND

Our beautiful cover star from the May/June issue of *Harper's Bazaar Interiors*, Brigitta has years of industry expertise, leading the luxury design portfolio of Candy & Candy for seven years as creative director before launching her own practice, Spinocchia Freund, in London. She's worked on projects all around the world, including Dubai and Qatar, and recently debuted an elegant linen collection available online for Middle East consumers. spinocchiafreund.com

LEE BROOM The award-winning Brit is a prolific designer, having created over 40 commercial and residential interiors, over 75 furniture and lighting collections sold in 120 stores across 40 countries, as well as guest designing for powerhouses like Christian Louboutin, Mulberry and Matthew Williamson. "I am honoured to be judging this year's *Harper's Bazaar Interiors Design Awards*," he says. "There is so much phenomenal talent emerging from the Middle East and these awards are a great opportunity to recognise this. I am passionate about supporting my fellow designers and I am pleased that *Harper's Bazaar Interiors* is providing such a positive platform from which to do so." leebroom.com

LYNDALL FERNIE As lead tutor at Chelsea College of Arts (CCA) in London and Dubai, Lyndall will provide an invaluable academic viewpoint to the judging process. After a successful career as a fashion designer for the luxe Italian labels Moschino and Versace, she turned her hand to interior design, qualifying at CCA. "The quality of design in Dubai is fantastic and I'm looking forward to being immersed in such a creative selection process," she enthuses. "Nowadays there is a wide spectrum of exceptional products to choose from. These brands have had to work extremely hard to be achieve this status, so recognition is vital."

arts.ac.uk/chelsea

NEZ GEBREEL Counting David and Victoria Beckham as former clients, Nez has an impressive portfolio of strategic development, from launching football academies to successfully steering major fashion projects. Now CEO for Dubai Design

and Fashion Council (DDFC), she's harnessing the creative resources of the Middle East to further the fashion and design industry in the region. "DDFC's mandate is to establish Dubai as the emerging design capital of the world by nurturing talent and providing a supportive community," she says. "Independent awards such as these play an important role, offering regional and local brands the opportunity to be recognised and awarded by key members of the design industry, as well as by consumers." dubaidesignandfashioncouncil.ae

RUE KOTHARI As editor in chief of *Bazaar Interiors* last year, Rue oversaw the Awards during its debut. This year, she's back on the panel as fair director of Downtown Design, bringing her expert insight and wide knowledge of both regional and international luxury brands. "I'm very happy to be involved with the Awards again," she says. "To be able to recognise those brands who continue to provide beautiful, intelligent solutions for consumers in the Middle East, and to support the next generation of regional designers, is a privilege." downtowndesign.com

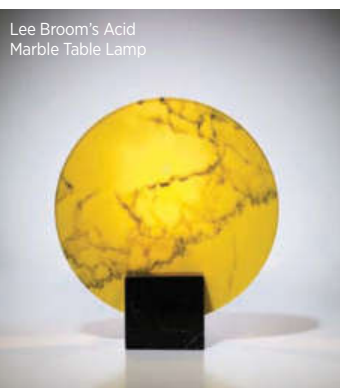
SACHA WALCKHOFF Sacha – who is looking forward to "this feast of fashion and design" – became a household name after stepping into the shoes of Monsieur Lacroix in 2009, when he handed the reins over to his assistant of 17 years. Tasked with rebuilding the brand mid-recession, the creative director of the Parisian powerhouse exemplifies innovative ideas, design excellence and careful brand building – everything the Design Awards represents.

christian-lacroix.com ■



Rue Kothari, fair director at Downtown Design, is back on the panel

Lee Broom's Acid Marble Table Lamp



THE CATEGORIES

Best Regional Furniture Brand

Best Lighting Brand

Best Textile Brand

Best Outdoor Brand

Best Tableware Brand

Most Innovative Brand

Most Eco-Conscious Brand

Best Fashion-to-Furniture Brand

Best Kitchen Design

Best Bathroom Design

Best Interior Designer

Best Emerging Designer

HAMEED HANI, 5MM

Iraqi-born Hameed launched his own design consultancy in London just three years after graduating from Brighton University in 2010. Two years later and 5mm has become well known for its precision and perfection when creating high-end residential projects. "The name itself, 5mm, suggests accuracy and attention to detail," says the interior designer, whose four-strong team cover all aspects of the project design, from concept development to bespoke furniture and interior styling. "Studying and working within the architecture sector helped me to understand space as well as construction details. However, I was always more inclined towards interiors as it involves greater attention to detail in all aspects of design." Working for a jeweller on luxury interior projects and within the Chelsea Harbour Design Centre, an iconic hub in London, allowed him to build strong relationships with suppliers – a key factor in taking the next step of setting up his own company. Hameed also has the added advantage of understanding cultural Middle East design values, after moving from Iraq to Dubai in 2003. He's designed a hotel spa in Qatar and has recently completed a holiday home in an exclusive area of central London, Seymour Street, for a client in Dubai. "Regardless of how talented you are, if you want to launch your own design firm you need to have a clear understanding of how a business works," he advises. "Being business savvy is an important requirement that will allow you to plan how your work will develop in the industry." 5mm.co ►



Hameed Hani in the London holiday home he designed for a client based in the UAE

LOOK AND LEARN

*As five successful start-ups
from the world of design,
furniture, fashion and art
share their experiences, be
inspired to make your own
career dream a reality*

Words by ELEANOR JOSLIN





GABRIEL & GUILLAUME

Nancy Gabriel and Guillaume Excoffier travel the world with their ephemeral decorative art gallery, displaying carefully curated furniture and art in a luxurious home-like setting. After two successful editions in Beirut in 2013 and 2014 (and a fourth planned for 2016), this year they are taking their savoir-faire show to the Christofle salon in Paris,

where Nancy has worked as a producer of advertising films and cinema, and where

Guillaume's eponymous furniture boutique is based. "A travelling gallery is an event that is never to be repeated, with special décor and new and exclusive products," explain the duo, who find exceptional vintage pieces from Gabriella Crespi, Gio Ponti, Carlo Bugatti, Robsjohn-Gibbings and Ettore Sottsass, amongst others. "It's a fresh and exciting way to discover furniture and art. It's not only about buying beautiful pieces, it's about living a special experience. Presenting our pieces as if in a real home comes from our own frustration of going to specialised galleries then trying to make things

look nice together. We wanted to offer an alternative, displaying pieces from different periods and styles and showing customers how they could mix well together. If you want your home to look like it's genuinely yours, reflecting all your interests, you cannot go for just one style. This is even truer in places like Beirut and Dubai, which have become meeting points of so many cultures. Our advice for entrepreneurs in the design world? Differentiation is key. Don't try to copy what is good right now. You can be inspired but you have to differentiate yourself."

Gabriel & Guillaume, October 22 to November 21, Salons Christofle, Rue Royale, Paris.

"PEOPLE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST LOVE TO TRAVEL AND THEY ARE CURIOUS ABOUT FINDING THE BEST THAT THE WORLD HAS TO OFFER. THIS ATTITUDE PUSHES US FORWARD"

Nancy Gabriel, Gabriel & Guillaume

Nancy and Guillaume with the luxury furniture that forms part of their travelling decorative art gallery

Bersun Ertürk demonstrates his Plythrone chair and award-winning LOCT table legs



BERSUN ERTÜRK, ELITE 'N' ELITE

Creating award-winning furniture is no easy feat, but Bersun Ertürk's LOCT coffee table won the Product Design category at APID's Festival of Interior Design awards when it was revealed in 2012. Now, the challenge he faces is finding a place in the market where the product will fit. "All our designs are made to high European standards of quality and because we manufacture them locally, in Sharjah, our prices are affordable. What we are faced with is a misconception that only high prices guarantee high quality," says the

Turkish designer, who co-founded Elite 'n' Elite with his father Akil Ertürk three years ago. Pooling together their impressive career history (Akil was a civil engineer and CEO of MNG Group of Companies, while Bersun was the senior creative director at Dubai-based creative consultancy Action Impact) the duo decided to turn carpentry – a hobby that runs in the family – into a business. "For the last ten years I've designed installations, events and exhibitions, but furniture and product design had always been something

I've wanted to do professionally," explains Bersun. "The UAE has changed – people are here for the longer haul. While the market is now mature enough for us to create our own lines of furniture, you need to put a lot of time, effort and money aside and wait for customers to accept you in the market – that's not always easy. Manufacturing in the UAE also has so much potential; as long as you do something interesting and maintain high levels of quality you will do well." elitenelite.com ➤

ZENA PRESLEY

"The first outfit I ever designed was my prom dress," recalls Zena Presley, who launched her debut fashion line earlier this year in Harvey Nichols Dubai. "I have always had a fascination with innovative fashion but I wanted to bring something new to the fashion scene." Captivated by a beautiful African painting, she realised that stunning works of art could be enjoyed outside the gallery medium by being combined with fashion.

"I immediately set to work on a project plan and within a week I was getting in touch with artists, looking for fabrics and designing my first pieces," she says. "However, there is much more to managing a clothing line than being a designer." Her background in business and finance – Zena was a project manager for Hewlett Packard prior to setting up her label – gave her valuable insight into the day-to-day running of a business. "When I designed my AW15 collection I learnt some valuable lessons: to be extremely organised, to pay attention to the slightest detail, and to focus on quality, as that is the key to continued growth. I also recommend working with a reputable PR company that will optimise the position and the public's perception of your brand." zenapresley.com



The designer wears her Zena Presley Calvin top with Elisabetta Franchetti trousers and Manolo Blahnik heels

DON'T MISS

Máximo Riera's week-long exhibition from November 12 at Cities Dubai, Galleria Mall, Jumeirah

Máximo seated at his Millennial console made from olive tree wood, available at Cities. Behind, mixed-media artwork from his Magazine collection

MÁXIMO RIERA, CITIES

Máximo is by no means new to the creative industry, having been a practicing artist for over thirty years, producing photography, paintings and sculptures inspired by his travels across Europe and the Caribbean Island. However, it is only since his retirement eight years ago – he was a distributor of high-precision medical equipment across Europe – that he has been able to pursue his artistic passions full time. “For many years my artistic career was relegated to a secondary role due my profession,” says the Spaniard. “It was an amazing journey with many

happy memories. After selling my company, I could concentrate on the creative work that has always have been my true passion. It has been a great experience so far.” His debut furniture range, the 2011 Animal Chair collection, celebrates the beauty of nature with leather seats set into life-like animals, such as elephants, blue whales, beetles and rhinos. Since ‘retiring’, Máximo has exhibited his furniture and art across four continents and 10 countries. He makes his next stop in Dubai with an exhibition at the haute design store Cities, in November. “It

is always a privilege to show your art and creations to an audience,” he says, “and it makes it more special to be in a location like Dubai, one of the most influential cities in the world.” For those wishing to change career path, no matter how late in life, he encourages them to follow their heart and have the determination to take the risk. “Art always has to break boundaries,” he adds. “Nowadays, being an artist requires you to take risks in order to create something unusual and innovative. This is the key to evolving art.” maximoriera.com; citiesstore.com ■

SUMMER BREEZE



An easy, breezy new summer trend

Staying cool, calm and collected in the soaring summer temperatures might be easier this season thanks to our mouth-watering range of new furniture and accessories in pleasantly cooling hues. The Summer Breeze collection hits stores this month in delicious ice-cream shades of turquoise, lavender and tangerine, blended with soft earth tones and cool whites to refresh dark, winter-weary rooms.

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ISLAND PARADISE

*From feng shui to farming olives, **Sheela Levy's**
Mallorca home is designed to inspire*

Words by ELEANOR JOSLIN
Photography by NATXO BASSOLS

SHOT EXCLUSIVELY FOR HARPER'S BAZAAR INTERIORS, ON THE SON NAUVA ESTATE IN MALLORCA.
PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTED BY NICO SANZO. SHEELA WEARS BUNGALOW 8 DRESS AND MAX MARA BANGLE

"SELLING THE BODY SHOP FRANCHISES GAVE ME
THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO DO WHAT I WAS
MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT – DESIGNING AND
DECORATING HOMES"

Sheela Levy, entrepreneur





The ambient Mallorcan weather allows for al fresco living all year round



Huge pots from Thailand watch over the stunning swimming pool

She may joke that it was the housekeeper's incredible carrot cake that lured her to buy this idyllic finca in Mallorca, but interior designer and entrepreneurial businesswoman Sheela Levy is making profitable use of the island's bountiful lands.

While she and husband Ivan made their name turning The Body Shop into an award-winning brand in Switzerland with international influence, thanks to statement window dressing, clever seasonal merchandising and a natural flair for design, in recent years they've spearheaded a number of diverse projects that are proving equally fruitful.

From the highest certified organic olive oil and home-grown almond products to Feng Shui interiors and property development, their home in the Son Naava estate has become a sustainable business in many ways.

"I am so proud of our blossoming olive grove that my husband and I have nurtured into a brand that stands for everything we believe in – organic, natural living and great quality," says Sheela. Their Demeter-certified organic olive oil range is produced from 2,500 alberquina olive trees they planted when they bought the 25-acre property five years ago. It was a profitable idea; they now sell over 10,000 bottles to gourmet restaurants and delicatessens in Mallorca, Switzerland and China. "Demeter is not only the most esteemed organic certification awarded, but it's also a holistic approach to agriculture," she adds.

Holism has become an integral aesthetic of her eponymous interior design practice, Sheela Levy Interiors, which implements the theory of Feng Shui with energising results – this serene five-bedroom finca is just one example of her work. Since 2012, she's quickly built up an international portfolio, with completed projects in New York, Mallorca, Mumbai, London and Barcelona.

Earlier this year she and Ivan also set up their own property development company CocoSage, which will launch officially in the autumn. "We have started buying old homes with character and history in Palma and we are now beginning the refurbishment, dabbling these blank canvases with colour, texture and energy before putting them on the market," says the entrepreneur. They have several projects underway, including the refurbishment of two houses in Calatrava, with beautiful gardens and terraces.

It's only since selling their 50-store franchise of The Body Shop in ►





Sheela wears Diane von Fürstenberg dress and Bungalow 8 necklace; her daughter Shaana Levy-Bahl wears Raquel Allegre dress, ring made bespoke by Ernst Loosli

2010, which the couple had grown from a single store in 1983, that they have been able to focus on their shared passion for property development and Sheela's flair for interior design.

In the early '80s their friends living in the Middle East urged them to bring a new and exciting franchise over from Britain. Having become a frequent shopper at The Body Shop on King's Road in London, they pledged their case to the founding partners Gordon and Anita Roddick. It turned out that the Middle East franchises were taken; Switzerland, however, was not. The couple moved to Ivan's native country and employed statement visual merchandising tactics that turned their shop beneath a hairdressers into a phenomenon. Soon after moving she found out she was pregnant with their daughter, Shaana Levy-Bahl. The smell of the store's fragrances made her extremely nauseas, she laughs, recalling how hard those early weeks were, having to decant large bottles of perfume oil into smaller ones. However, it couldn't have been too much of a hindrance, as success – and more stores – soon followed.

"We were so particular about how our stores looked," she says. "I set up an in-house decorating department and hired qualified window dressers who made a statement. We created soap opera windows with velvet curtains and piles of soaps; Batman wearing eye masks to coincide with the release of the film. I changed the colours of collections seasonally, including the packaging and ribbons; everything had to be exceptional, from uniforms to the displays.



The house came with a number of chairs, which Sheela has restored and upholstered

"I LOVE CREATING ECLECTIC, WARM, CONTEMPORARY SPACES THAT FEEL MORE LIKE SUBLIME RETREATS AND SANCTUARIES THAN JUST HOMES"

Sheela Levy, entrepreneur

We were creative, different and – most importantly – we got noticed. We won every visual merchandising award year after year and became an inspiration to other franchises around the world."

In 2010 they sold their businesses to Coop Switzerland, and two years later she left her role as creative director. "This gave me the perfect opportunity to do what I was most passionate about – designing and decorating homes. After spending thirty years visually merchandising and re-merchandising 50 stores seasonally, and moving and redecorating my own homes 25 times, I realised I had an innate talent and eye for space management, colour combinations and design."

Feng Shui has become a signature part of her aesthetic. She became passionate about Chinese

Face Reading and Feng Shui when she was designing a restaurant in London in 1989, and enrolled on a two-year course at the Imperial School of Feng Shui under the tutelage of Kajal Sheth. "She was an enthralling teacher and I became obsessed with the subject. She continues to be an important part of my life and wisdom while doing up all my homes."

One project she had fortuitous influence on was their own home in Eaton Place, London. "This was a run-down garden apartment that we transformed from an old fashioned, chintzy, dilapidated, dark space with small rooms, to a large, light, contemporary, warm and inviting space. We created a fabulous space with high ceilings, a light wooden Mafi Floor, a fabulous Bulthaup kitchen, and large glass windows overlooking the garden. When we ►



An old door bought locally, distressed and then oiled, creates a magnificent coffee table

sold Eaton Place to move back to Zurich a few years later, Kajal gave us an auspicious time to put the house on the market. It sold within three weeks at the asking price!”

While the couple have multiple properties in Mumbai and Zurich, “Son Naava is my creative home where I come for instant bliss,” she says. Nestled in the agricultural heart of the island just outside Montuiri, the area is known for its rich history and even richer soils. “The quality of life is amazing here,” says Sheela, gazing out across the sun-dappled vista of manicured gardens, undulating olive groves and lush green hills. Mallorca possesses a feeling of “perfect tranquillity” – a sentiment shared by Rafael Nadal and Robert Graves. She praises many of the island’s idyllic attributes, from the beautiful Balearic capital Palma with its breathtaking cathedrals and architecture to the abundance of golf courses (27), beach coves (350) and gourmet restaurants – seven of which boast Michelin stars. No wonder *The Times* voted Palma the best city in the world to live in April. The Levys are adding to the local culinary scene with plans to open a café, using produce they’ve grown themselves. This is part of a larger CocoSage development comprising of four apartments, a penthouse with 360-degree views of the coast and town, plus a café, bakery and restaurant.

Originally built by the Swarovski family as a real-estate development, their 500-square-metre, five-bedroom villa with sweeping gardens is a Zen of calm and tranquillity. “When we bought this finca its Feng Shui showed a lot of Earth Energy – most houses on a north-east/south-west axis tend to have this,” she says, “which meant that the house was ‘stuck’. Colour-wise, the house needed a lot of greys, silvers, gold and white to energise it.

“In reality, there are no quick fixes and Feng Shui only works when the person wants a real holistic, overall change in every aspect of their life,” she adds. “Essentially, it is about understanding the energy that surrounds the client at home, and finding ways to strengthen and improve that energy so their space exudes a supportive atmosphere. Whether it’s to enhance one’s career, love, or health, Feng Shui is a personalised science. It is definitely not about hanging a chime in a corner or putting a mirror in another! It’s a lot more than that; you have to look at the whole picture.”

The neutral colour palette, slate flooring, elements of reclaimed wood and soft upholstery create a soothing ambience. The villa is furnished with Moooi, B&B Italia, The White Company, Missoni, Tribu, Lizzo and Nobilis; rugs come from Morocco, lamps from Switzerland, cushions from Bali; many of Sheela’s own designs are in place, too, which have been brought to life by a local carpenter. The couple are avid art collectors and currently have on display a number of large, black-and-white photographs from Rohit Chawla, a photographer they know in India.

The door to the al fresco cinema is 200 years old, reclaimed from a salvage yard with handles added from Marrakech



They spray-painted a large French dining table they inherited from their predecessors and a gold chandelier in black and reupholstered the dining chairs in black fabric. The beds were changed to Duxiana with headboards and cushions covered in Ikat fabric made in Santa Maria.

Outside, the pool casita was renovated with a cement day bed in the same light terracotta colour of the house. Sheela placed a large mirror behind the daybed to reflect the water for good Feng Shui. “Mirrors and water signify money and have to be treated with great reverence when being placed,” she says. “I built an additional cement seating area on the south side that I call my ‘chai’ area. This is where I watch the incredible sunsets we have in Mallorca, when the sky turns different shades of golden yellow and burnt orange. Everyone who visits comments on how incredibly calm and peaceful the energy feels.

“However, I am most proud of the amazing outdoor cinema and the fabulous long terrace, where we all spend time, reading, relaxing, working... It feels like a Zen sanctuary there.” No doubt her daughter and son-in-law Uraaz Bahl, who are both film producers, appreciate this al fresco cinematic enclave. The gardens were enlarged and landscaped with palm trees around

the entrance and pool, and lots of white flowers such as bougainvillea and white oleanders. “I chose to have all the flowers in white to add a sense of peace and calm. I also brought over 25 beautiful, distressed grey and cream pots from Thailand and filled them with white flowers that I change seasonally, as well as the cushions, artwork and interior paint. This comes from all those years merchandising The Body Shop stores, and changing the look seasonally, just like the fashion industry.”

Old habits are hard to break, it seems. But if making seasonal changes to the look of her interior projects leads to the same success as The Body Shop, Sheela Levy Interiors promises to become another multi-award-winning business in her creative portfolio. Watch this Feng Shui-ed space... ■

Sheela transforms a suitcase into a chair using Ikat fabric from Santa Maria





Above: Behind the Tribu sun loungers the Levy's alberquina olive trees sprawl across the hillside. Right: The Swarovski's French dining table and chandelier spray-painted black. Left: Ikat textiles and photography from Rohit Chawla's book *Wanderlust* create a corner of calm. Below: A Buddha head adds Zen to the outdoor dining area





JON *at home with* TAN ADLER

*The prolific potter
invites Bazaar
Interiors into his
fabulous holiday home
in the Hamptons,
where he dreams up
new designs amid a
natural haven of
inspiration*

“I want to make things that are chic and make people wonder, ‘Huh, what is that? I wonder why that’s there? Why would someone make that?’” laughs Jonathan

Adler, the creative force behind his eponymous label, an empire of eccentric and colourful home furnishings, décor and accessories. Every corner and surface of his Shelter Island retreat, in Suffolk County, New York, invites those questions, teaming with curios, pattern, colour and quirky shapes – the potter’s signature style.

As a busy executive he is based in New York City’s Manhattan, but it’s this private haven on Shelter Island, in the idyllic environs of the Hamptons, where Jonathan truly unwinds. In this space, packed to the brim with personality, the potter at heart makes the most of his time away dreaming up new creations.

“Unlike most Hamptons residents, I am not a finance person,” he observes. “I am like a bohemian who’s made good somehow. My home here is very personal, and there are no rules.”

The contemporary single-storey house was built six years ago by Gray Organschi Architecture and Hamptons builder Carlos Routh. It’s a compact space of 2,800 square feet with three bedrooms, three bathrooms, a gym, and a sprawling living room, which seems smaller being packed wall-to-wall with retro-glam furniture, art deco lights and statement artwork, most of which Jonathan designed himself. Maximizing the indoor/outdoor living space was a priority, he says, with a large patio area, swimming pool, pavilion and expansive windows that allow him to feel “at one with the beautiful view”.

He describes the low-slung home as a “modernist California meets Sweden meets Japan.” Rather than being an iconoclastic statement, the black exterior is inspired by his travels. “I’ve always loved the black houses in Japan and Sweden. They merge beautifully with the landscape,” he explains.

Behind the layers of pattern and pop, the interior features warm neutral tones that also blend in with the surroundings. “I took all my cues from the outdoors,” he recalls. “The ceiling is cedar to match the sand outside; the string drapes of the curtains have a sandy texture; the floor is slate to complement the slate hues of the sea. I wanted this home to be neutral and at peace with the surroundings.”

However, in this case, neutral is far from boring. Splashed across this base is Jonathan’s signature use of bold colour, pattern and quirky accessories – an eccentric style that points to his adroit skill as a decorator. Layer upon layer is loaded with design idiosyncrasies, but the effect is still comfortable and balanced.

His other mandate was to be inspired to “make lots of stuff”. This is where his creativity is unleashed, and the house is often a testing ground for objects that might make their way into one of his 30 international retail stores and 1,000-plus stockists.



“IN THE HAMPTONS I AM A BOHEMIAN WHO’S MADE GOOD SOMEHOW”

A sculptural divider between the living room and kitchen is composed of aerated concrete. The organic, modular structure was one he first sculpted in the studio and then had cast. It’s now in several of his shops around the world. One of his favourite items is a mural on the kitchen island painted by close friend and artist John-Paul Philippé. “I asked him to paint a mural that was inspired by what I see – such as the many birds that flock to Shelter Island. I sit outside and see ospreys hunting with fish in their beaks. Now there’s an owl, which is so rare to see, that comes and hunts at dusk. It’s a nature wonderland out there.”

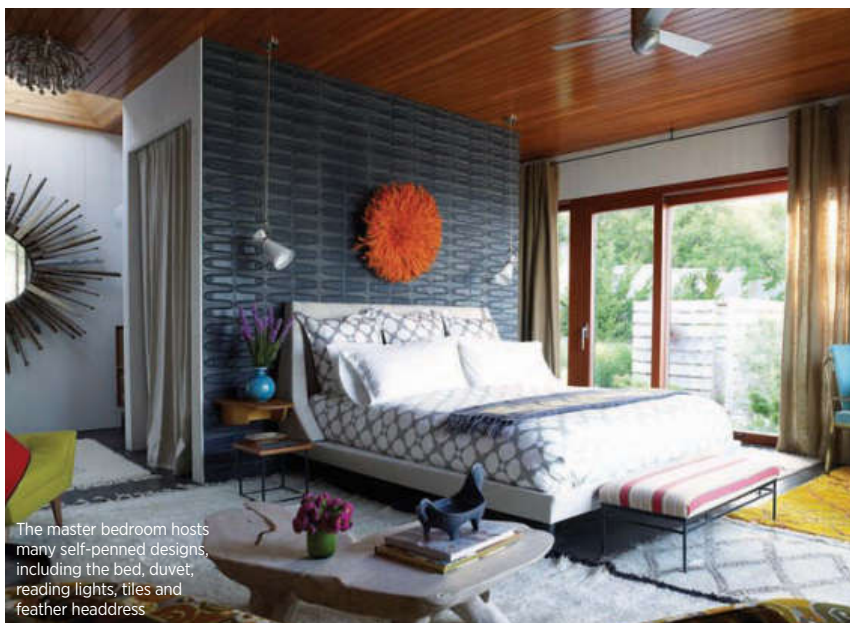
His illustrative woodland figurines on the kitchen island, which look as if they came straight from a story book, are evocative of his popular ceramic and brass bird figurines, which

were ideated at the same time as the mural. “I am always paying homage to my favourite animals. I mean, I do love a bird,” he quips.

Jonathan grew up in a remote farm town in New Jersey and first tried pottery at summer camp when he was 12 years old. “I’m not a spiritual person, but something just clicked.

I became obsessed with it,” he recalls. He went on to study semiotics and art history at the Ivy League Brown University, but spent more time making pots at the nearby Rhode Island School of Design.

While he considered matriculating to an advanced programme his teacher told him he lacked the talent and should forgo graduate study. Taking her advice, he moved to New York City where, for three years, his passion for pottery remained as unfulfilled as a cold kiln. He then took his first step on the road to design stardom teaching classes at a pottery studio called Mud, Sweat & Tears, in exchange for free studio space, baking and glazing his first collection. ➤



The master bedroom hosts many self-penned designs, including the bed, duvet, reading lights, tiles and feather headress



Breakfast by the beach is an idyllic start to the day, with a vintage George Nelson light shade and furniture by Richard Schultz for Knoll

"Huh, what is that? WHY would someone make that?"





Jonathan's ceramic ornaments are well displayed while the living room rocks a cool '70s look with his Peter Peruvian Llama rug and Geoffrey Harcourt shell seat



Living room sofa and dining chairs in Lee Jofa fabric are designed by the potter; spot the vintage Beni Ourain rug up front, and John-Paul Philippe's kitchen island mural at the back

His big break came in 1994 when he pitched and triumphantly sold a series of handmade ceramics to Barneys New York, made in what would become his signature style – mod-influenced, striped black and white. At the time, he still had much to learn as a businessman; for six months he shipped the pots to Barneys but didn't get paid. When he called to ask, they told him that he'd never sent an invoice.

"It was a huge break," he smiles. "I just decided to surrender to it, to work as hard as I could and not think about how impoverished I was going to be, and to see where it led." Not only did it lead to a hugely successful ceramic range in one of the most prestigious department stores in America's most fashionable city, but it was also where he met his partner Simon Doonan, Barneys' creative ambassador-at-large.

Over two decades later, Jonathan's home décor products, textiles and furniture lines are now sold all over the world, with Neimanmarcus.com satiating our appetite for his eclectic accessories in the UAE. He is an interior designer on both residential and commercial projects, retail tycoon, author and lead judge on the Bravo television series *Top Design*. He happily brainstorms amongst his talented employees at his Manhattan headquarters (dubbed The Fantasy Factory). He is also prolific in his collaborations as the creator of diffusion lines at department stores JCPenney and Kohl's, called Happy Chic, and through partnerships with Kohler, Formica Laminate, Paperless Post, amongst others.

Jonathan's Animalia collection is a bestseller in the Gulf, combining gold with statement animal motifs, which are stylish yet fantastical. His AW15 collection features even more gilded items, including the Ultra collection, which combines rose gold with marble, and a gold-splattered china range

called 1948, so named after the temperature at which gold melts.

"There's a sense of ornament and an embrace of gold that I really enjoy in the Middle East," he says. "I've travelled there many times, especially to India as I manufacture a lot of my designs there. I am truly inspired by both the Middle and Far East, infusing minimalism with a layer of pattern and ornament, which creates a really interesting combination."

"If a businessman is reading this, I am dying to open a store in Dubai," he laughs. No doubt he'll be inundated with franchise requests as soon as this hits the shelves... At times, Jonathan is incredulous about his own success. "It is a miracle that I'm here," he says modestly. "I underplay it, but the truth is I was unemployed at 27 and I went to the pottery studio to pass the time. And now here I am! No plan; nothing. It just happened."

Though he makes it seem easy and effortless, one can assume that behind that calm exterior lies hours of toil and dedication to his discipline, making his Shelter Island home an essential getaway. While the Hamptons may be synonymous with wealth and flashy money, Shelter Island is a quaint, laid-back residential area, separated from the rest of the Hamptons not only by culture but by a body of water – it is accessible only by ferry. "It's in the Hamptons, but it's also the anti-Hamptons," he grins. He and Simon are there every weekend over the summer, entertaining, enjoying time with friends and taking full advantage of the outdoors – paddle boarding, cycling, or just sitting outside and taking in the view.

"My favourite aspect of the house is that it faces due east," he muses. "I wake up in the morning, when the sun is rising and it is just magical. It almost feels fake. Like there's a sun machine outside, which cues the egret who flies by like a Japanese watercolour. It's just perfect." ■

If a businessman is reading this, I am **DYING** *to open a store in Dubai*



Colourful Jonathan Adler cushions and Utopian Sun tiles chill in the pool pavilion, designed by Gray Organschi Architecture



Collectible artwork by Farhad Moshiri and Anne Penman Sweet frame the contemporary living room



THE ART OF ARCHITECTURE

Tarek Qaddumi and Dalya Tabari
*create heightened spatial experiences
across three distinct properties*

*Words and styling by ELEANOR JOSLIN
Photography by RICHARD HALL*

“I have learnt so much about the architecture of space being married to an architect; I’d never appreciated how powerful it could be before,” says Dalya Tabari, referring to the spatial experiences her husband Tarek Qaddumi is so adept at creating.

In their own way, the couple are each revolutionising the way we live in the UAE – one within the realm of education and the other within commercial architecture.

Together, they have collaborated on two projects – the renovation of their beautiful family home in Arabian Ranches and The Developing Child Centre (TDCC) in Al Manara, an educational support centre which Dalya co-founded with Nof Al Mazrui.

“It’s every architect’s dream to build their home from scratch,” says Tarek, who founded his own practice TNQ in 2005. “However, eight years ago it wasn’t the right time for us – Rashad was just three years old, Dalya was pregnant with Sadene, and we both had businesses to run.” While Dalya has been steering TDCC for the past two years she’s also been the director of pharmaceutical distributor IDS for 12. “When we moved here the house didn’t have much personality; it was like a blank canvas so it was a great chance to make it our own. Now it’s like a haven for us. I love coming home, relaxing in the openness of the space and looking outside. Like gazing out at the ocean, it is bliss.”

The villa features generous accommodation: the top floor forms the dedicated living quarters of their home help, who enjoy the best views of the desert golf course Arabian Ranches is famed for; the first floor ➤



See double in the dining room, reflected in the mirrored wall tarnished by the couple for an antique look



Tarek and Dalya chat on retro chairs from The Odd Piece. Dalya wears Chloe crepe sable jacket with Dolce & Gabbana azulejo charmeuse, Dhs3,600, both Harvey Nichols

features the master bedroom and kids' rooms, a cosy TV snug with shelves of books and elephant figurines; while downstairs there is a guest room, four light-filled reception rooms and a kitchen. The architect improved the original Emaar shell by adding a living room extension and a new breakfast room, opening up the entrance and foyer, and landscaping the garden with a terrace and a large lawn for the kids to play in. "I smile every time I walk in," says Dalya, whose family moved from Palestine to the UAE in the 1970s. "Tarek opened up the house dramatically with glass-panelled front doors and an open entrance foyer. Thick wooden doors are normal in the neighbourhood but for us it creates this 'stop' feeling when you approach the house. Saying our home is your home is very much ingrained into our Middle Eastern culture, so we needed to reverse this feeling of intimidation. Of all the changes Tarek made to the property this has had the biggest impact and all our guests comment on how welcoming our home feels."

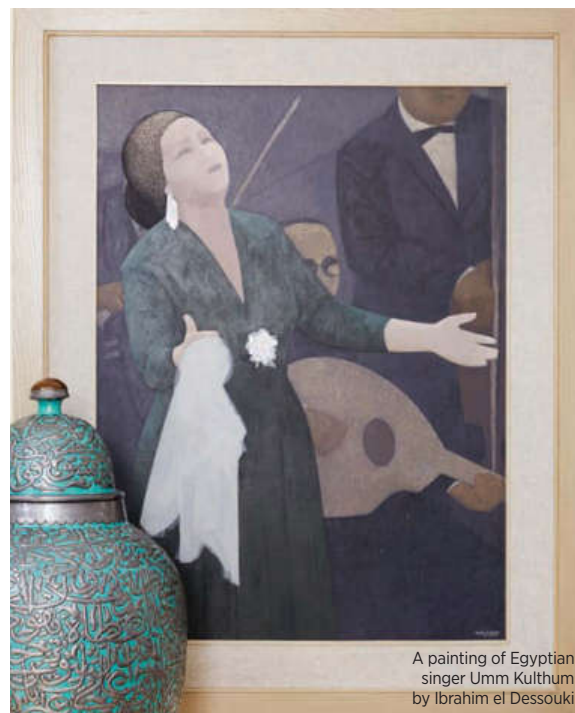
"It's a spatial experience," adds her Palestinian-American husband, who came to Dubai in 2002 and soon met Dalya. This aesthetic has become integral to his design philosophy, an ideology that he began to appreciate under the mentorship of Pritzker Prize winner Thom Mayne, when he graduated from the University of Michigan in 1997. "When you're talking about contemporary architecture and minimalism, your strongest grammar is playing with the power of space. Like looking down from the top of a rollercoaster – you might not be scared but you feel the power of that spatial experience."

As well as being cleverly architected, the house has been tastefully decorated, too. While Dalya quips that the architecture not the sofa makes people feel comfortable, the couple's contemporary Minotti couches certainly help. The second living room is Dalya's favourite spot, where she likes to relax in a retro orange armchair from The Odd Piece and watch the parrots flock to the majestic tree in their garden, visitors who arrive like clockwork at 4.30pm every day. "We're the only house the parrots come to," she confides. "I live that moment very conscientiously and I am always very happy in that place."

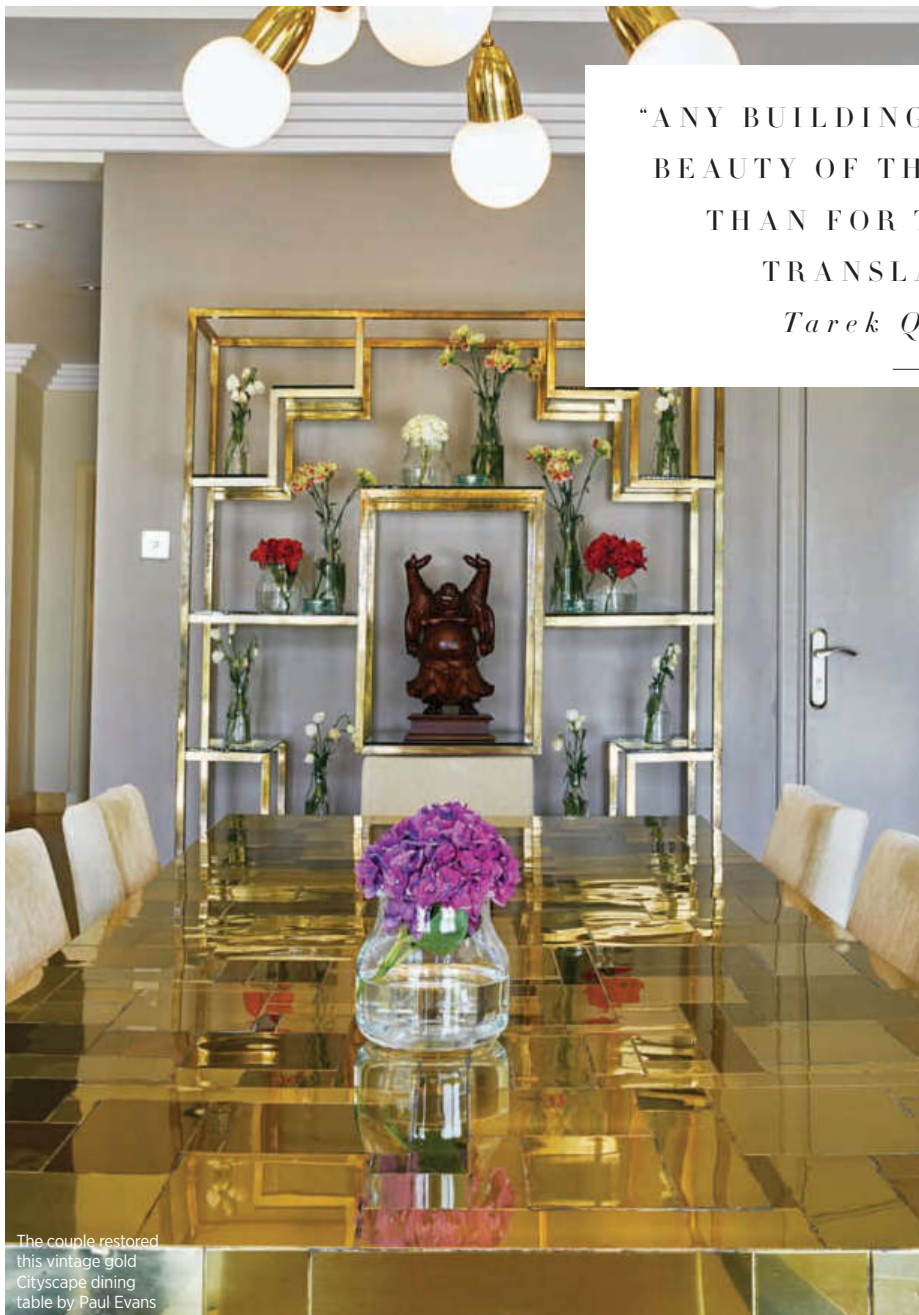
The dining room shimmers with a statement gold Cityscape

table by "our favourite insane interior decorator" Paul Evans, and a contemporary orb chandelier from The Odd Piece, echoed in the floor-to-ceiling antique-effect mirrors. The couple are creative, buying the mirrors new and getting them tarnished for a vintage look, and hanging an art deco room divider from Irony Home on the wall to create an artistic display in the hall.

The family's favourite space is the Flamant-furnished Hamptons-style breakfast room they built between the kitchen and dining room. Here, they enjoy time together with the kids, having family meals completely undisturbed by technology. "We live in a very fast-paced world and we are able to unravel at home and relax together in these spaces, which every family should strive to do," says the father-of-two. ➤



A painting of Egyptian singer Umm Kulthum by Ibrahim el Dessouki



“ANY BUILDING THAT IS MADE FOR THE
BEAUTY OF THE EXPERIENCE RATHER
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TRANSLATE INTO BEAUTY”

Tarek Qaddumi, architect



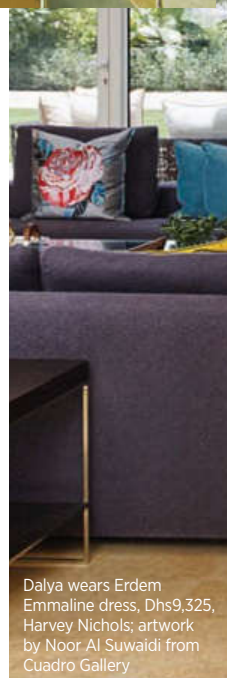
Retro-modern
and bold floral-
chintz mix in
the living room

The couple restored
this vintage gold
Cityscape dining
table by Paul Evans

Encouraging family values and their kids’ academic and creative capabilities are extremely important to the couple, from this no-tech dinner table rule (a rare notion in today’s constantly connected society), to the kids’ artwork proudly framed on the walls. Of course, these are high on the agenda for every parent, but Rashad and Sadene benefit even further from Dalya and Nof’s unique centre, TDCC.

Together they are revolutionising the rigid education system in place in the UAE, giving children from the ages of one to 18 support in key areas where they and their parents feel they could do better or gain more confidence, from extra math class to speech therapy to exam practice. The aim for all children, no matter how much help they come for, is to integrate them into mainstream schooling and to give them the tools to be confident in that space. Two years later the not-for-profit business has 800 pupils coming for extra-curricular support, with all proceeds of the fees going towards the Hiba fund, spearheaded by Nof to give financial grants to parents.

“We are very blessed,” admits Dalya. “We’ve both been able to use early intervention strategies to support our children, who are all doing really well at school.” Rashad and Sadene attend American School of Dubai and visit TDCC for a boost in subjects like creative writing and mathematics. “TDCC is unique; Nof and I couldn’t find anywhere that provided these services – the concept of raising and empowering your child; of being able to support a child’s success; to build their confidence... We wanted to



Dalya wears Erdem
Emmaline dress, Dhs9,325,
Harvey Nichols; artwork
by Noor Al Suwaidi from
Cuadro Gallery



Right: Wood and gold wend their way through the open-plan reception rooms
Below: Vintage screen bought by Dalya's parents 50 years ago in Hong Kong



create an environment where they could walk into school and be confident about being there and what they could achieve that day.”

For parents and children who come to TDCC with concerns, the very architecture that surrounds them is designed to temper those worries. “Dalya and Nof wanted the centre to be a place where people feel uplifted, happy and comfortable, with a sense of being guided through this journey by professionals,” says Tarek, whose company spearheaded the conversion of the former villa. Another TNQ project you’ll recognise is Jones the Grocer on Sheikh Zayed Road, whose high-ceilinged, spacious restaurant is designed to evoke the relaxed ambience of a glass-panelled Italian piazza.

“Any building made for the beauty of the experience rather than the aesthetic will translate into beauty,” he says. “One of the fundamental things we did at TDCC was to shift the entrance between the main building and the annexe opposite. This creates an area that ‘holds’ you between the buildings, instead of an open space where you might feel lost. And when you arrive, walking up a slope towards the reception evokes the

SPACE ACE

From the converted warehouse of TNQ’s office in Dubitech to the wide and welcoming entrance of TDCC, enhancing the spatial experience of a property has become a signature style of Tarek Qaddumi’s architecture practice. TNQ’s mezzanine boardroom, inset top, exemplifies the minimal aesthetic of the practice, while the high ceilings, concrete floors and wooden tabletop mounted onto painted oil drums inspire creativity.

feeling of being lifted and reaching out. There’s a serenity to the architecture; it creates a very calming environment.” This mood is enhanced by the light and airy hallways, a wide and welcoming reception, quiet reading hubs for waiting parents, and a colour palette in shades of soothing grey. This is TNQ’s signature scheme – if it can’t be done in grey, then something isn’t right, laughs the contemporary architect.

Even the names of the buildings – Home, Mozart and Einstein – are there to comfort and inspire. “These two men are geniuses, but they had what would nowadays be labelled as learning disabilities,” says Dalya, who rolls her eyes at the term. “Schools statistics say one in four children need extra support with their learning – so does that mean 75% do not? We refuse to discriminate against the level of support children need, as everyone benefits from extra encouragement. Kids themselves are really quick to identify the areas that they need help with. Rashad is great mathematically and logically, but he wants to be a better creative writer, whereas his sister is great at writing, but we know she’ll benefit from focussing on her maths skills. Our motto at home is, ‘if it’s important to you, you work on it’. So nothing feels inaccessible.

“Setting up TDCC put everything I had learnt in the corporate world to the test,” she admits. Her career history spans business, marketing, communications and strategic thinking all around the world, in Dubai, London and New York. “If you are passionate, and your interest is for the greater good rather than monetary, it is difficult not to succeed.” ■



Niloufar Bakhtiar-Bakhtiari, with an occasional chair she designed herself; birdcage by Ascète Edition

LONDON CALLING

*The Chelsea home of interior designer **Niloufar Bakhtiar-Bakhtiari** encapsulates her professional aesthetic of reflecting the homeowner's passions*

*Words by NAUSHEEN NOOR
Photography by FELIX CLAY and ANDREW BEASLEY*

The street is lined with Japanese cherry blossom trees, which bloom pink and white in the spring, and later rains little petals,” says interior designer and founder of NBB Design Niloufar Bakhtiar-Bakhtiari, of her home in London’s tony Chelsea neighbourhood. After falling in love with the area, as she walked past taking her two kids to school, she finally bought her dream home four years ago.

“The Old Lady,” as she endearingly calls the townhouse, was in need of extensive renovation. “I could see she had good bone structure, though, as the house was longer than most in central London,” she adds. She gutted the entire house, reincorporating the separate basement apartment, opening up the living and dining areas, and adding 17 supporting beams to accommodate the new layout.

The result is a sprawling, light-filled family home – quite a luxury in London. Niloufar can host a Nowruz (Persian New Year) party every year, with over 100 people spread across the three floors and spilling out onto the garden. Still, through Niloufar’s carefully planned interior and cosy corners, the home does not lose any of its intimacy. “I don’t like it when you go into someone’s house and think, ‘That’s been done by a designer’.” A home should reflect my clients’ personalities. For me, that’s part of the journey, finding out every detail about them. If I can’t grasp who they are, then I cannot reflect that in the space that they live in.”

Her creative use of colour, which NBB Design is well known for, helps create a comfortable atmosphere in this home that she shares with her son, Alexandre, 15, and daughter, Maxine, 10. For the synaesthesis, colour is inextricably linked with certain childhood memories. “My grandmother is linked to certain colours, and so are other relatives” she says. “I strongly believe this has to do with where you were raised and your surroundings. I am very influenced by where I grew up.” Born to a Swiss mother and Iranian father, Niloufar spent her early childhood in Iran, before moving to Switzerland after the Iranian revolution. While she has a few fading memories of distant relatives in Iran, she is able to recall their ‘colours’, the textures of their curtains and paint on their walls with utmost clarity.

Typical of aesthetically inclined individuals, Niloufar is sensitive to the feelings that certain spaces emanate. “Personally, I’m very affected by my surroundings interiors,” she says. “If I’m in a really ugly place, I’m going to feel really bad. I really think our surroundings have a very strong emotional impact, whether we realise it or not.”

She was exposed to various styles of design from a very young age. Her Swiss grandfather was a collector of modern art, with a house inspired by the film *My Fair Lady*. Her mother’s house in Geneva had 1970s décor complete with a sunken living room, while her father’s house was more ornate, with Persian carpets and gilded details. Both her father and brother live in Dubai and Niloufar is a frequent visitor. ➤



"I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU STEP INTO
SOMEONE'S HOUSE AND THINK, 'OH, THAT'S BEEN
DONE BY A DESIGNER'"

Niloufar Bakhtiar-Bakhtiari, interior designer



The pink coffee table was the first item Niloufar bought for the house, by French artist Yves Klein. All the sofas in the house are designed by Niloufar



A hanging system around the dining room walls enables the art to be changed easily

She recommends that her UAE clients incorporate greige (grey mixed with beige) and shades of aubergine into their colour schemes. She also sees infinite potential in mixing the outdoor with the indoor. “There’s not much scope for that in London, whereas in Dubai there’s so much room for using your imagination, without being worried about the weather.”

As well as colour theory, she consults on art at NBB Design and has an admirable collection at her own home, such as Pierre Alechinsky, Henri Matisse, Constantin Terechkovitch and Hayv Kahraman. Her striking en-suite bathroom was inspired by a photograph by Alex Prager, who is known for crisp, boldly coloured photographs that resemble movie stills. *Susie and Friends* depicts several women at a late night party sitting in a Jacuzzi tub, smoking and drinking. The impact is arresting, with surrounding elements carefully chosen to accent the piece. Her tub is lined with mirrored panels, echoing the ‘70s era of the photograph. The top shelf of the bookshelves surrounding the tub are lined with drink cans that match the photo, a nod to Niloufar’s viewpoint that design shouldn’t be taken too seriously.

Niloufar’s home, and the basement in particular, is indicative of that liberal design philosophy. The basement flooring is in leather, the walls are dovetail grey, and extra deep sofas are perfect for watching television or playing games on their Wii. It’s a cosy family atmosphere that can be used daily, rather than saved for occasions. Next to the TV room is a space that gets very little natural light in ‘The Old Lady’. So she had two options. “It was either going to be a gym or a bar, and since we’re still a bit young, we went with the bar,” she laughs. Beyond the horsehair folding doors lie a striking bar accented with red ambient lighting. It is at once reminiscent of an old English club and a hip, lounge in an exclusive boutique hotel.

Though it’s been thoroughly redone, the home still retains certain idiosyncrasies of its former self. The staircases are unusually wide with landings that could be rooms unto themselves. Niloufar chose to highlight this often neglected area with decorative mirrors and art. “Staircases are like the spine of the house,” she says. “They are places that you use a lot, to go from one room to another, one floor to another, so the design there shouldn’t be ignored. I often sit on the staircase with my kids, catching up. It’s turned into a meeting point. Otherwise, we are all shouting from floor to floor down the staircase.” ➤



Her favourite part of the home is her bedroom. Using taupe and shades of coral and ochre, she's created a space that is bright and warm and simultaneously calm and soothing. Niloufar, who designs bespoke furniture for her clients, upholstered all of her cabinet doors in fabric, adding a softness to what is normally hard edged and disruptive to the overall scheme. A custom-made box at the end of the bed disguises a TV screen, which reveals itself at the touch of a button. In the middle of the room, a dressing table with a pop-up mirror keeps all her cosmetics and accessories cleverly stowed away. Two antique Louis XVI armchairs in orange velvet add a classical touch. "My bedroom is a little haven. I read there. I sit by the fireplace – in England we actually get to use the fireplace a lot," she jokes.

Niloufar is a particularly diligent interior designer. Since founding her company in 1999, she has always spent not hours, but days and weeks getting to know her clients before commencing a project. She takes them to art exhibitions and department stores. She goes through their clothing and their art collections. She tailors questionnaires to find out about their favourite author, painter, photographer... "Basically, anything that will make them talk about themselves and reveal their character," she explains. She puts in a lot of background research in order to yield a space that is a truly personal to each of her clients.

She often visits her clients' homes at different times of the day to see

how the light changes, and how that will impact colour and ambience. As is evident from her bar and bedroom, she eschews modern, minimalist design in favour of bold colour blocking and a mix of antique and contemporary elements, which is also her signature aesthetic at NBB Design. "If a client says they want something really sleek and everything in

white, I'm definitely not going to do that, especially not in London," she states. "It doesn't work there. White reflects colour and light, and while it would work wonderfully in the warm light of the UAE, the light in London is too cold. I like warm-feeling interiors where my clients will feel cosy and at home, and therefore colour is necessary."

She will also change décor according to the light levels, at certain

times of the year. "I might remove a piece of art at home, then put it back but the light will have changed so the vision is different. Art should never remain static – that's when it becomes too serious. I have a hanging system so, depending on my mood, the light or the season, I can easily change the art."

Weather aside, Niloufar's original plan was to stay in London for six months. "But six months turned into 19 years," she laughs. She continues to find inspiration in this dynamic city teeming with design, art, history and a myriad of cultural events. "London is a very cosmopolitan city where you can go to the opera, visit art exhibitions, eat at a new restaurant, every day if you wish. Or you can stay at home, where it's peaceful and you're cosy and the cherry blossom trees look pretty. That's what I love." ■

"OUR SURROUNDINGS CAN HAVE A
STRONG IMPACT AND I AM VERY
AFFECTED BY INTERIORS. IF IT'S
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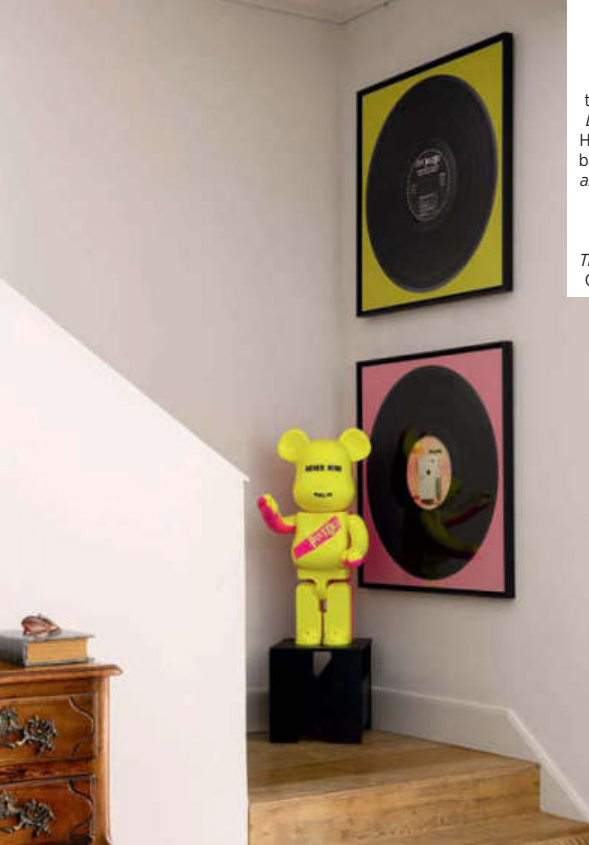
Niloufar Bakhtiar-Bakhtiari



Framed photo by
Ramin Haerizadeh, of
the artist with friends.
Niloufar wears Marie
France Van Damme



Above: The master bedroom in coral and orange, with Henri Matisse drawing above the fireplace, on the right, *Dancers and Lounging* by Hayv Kahraman. Right: The basement bar. Below: *Susie and Friends* by Alex Prager in the master bathroom. Left: *Sex Pistols Bear* by Toy Box, *Serie '33 tours'* *The Cure* and *Sex Pistols* by Olivier and Nathalie Borst



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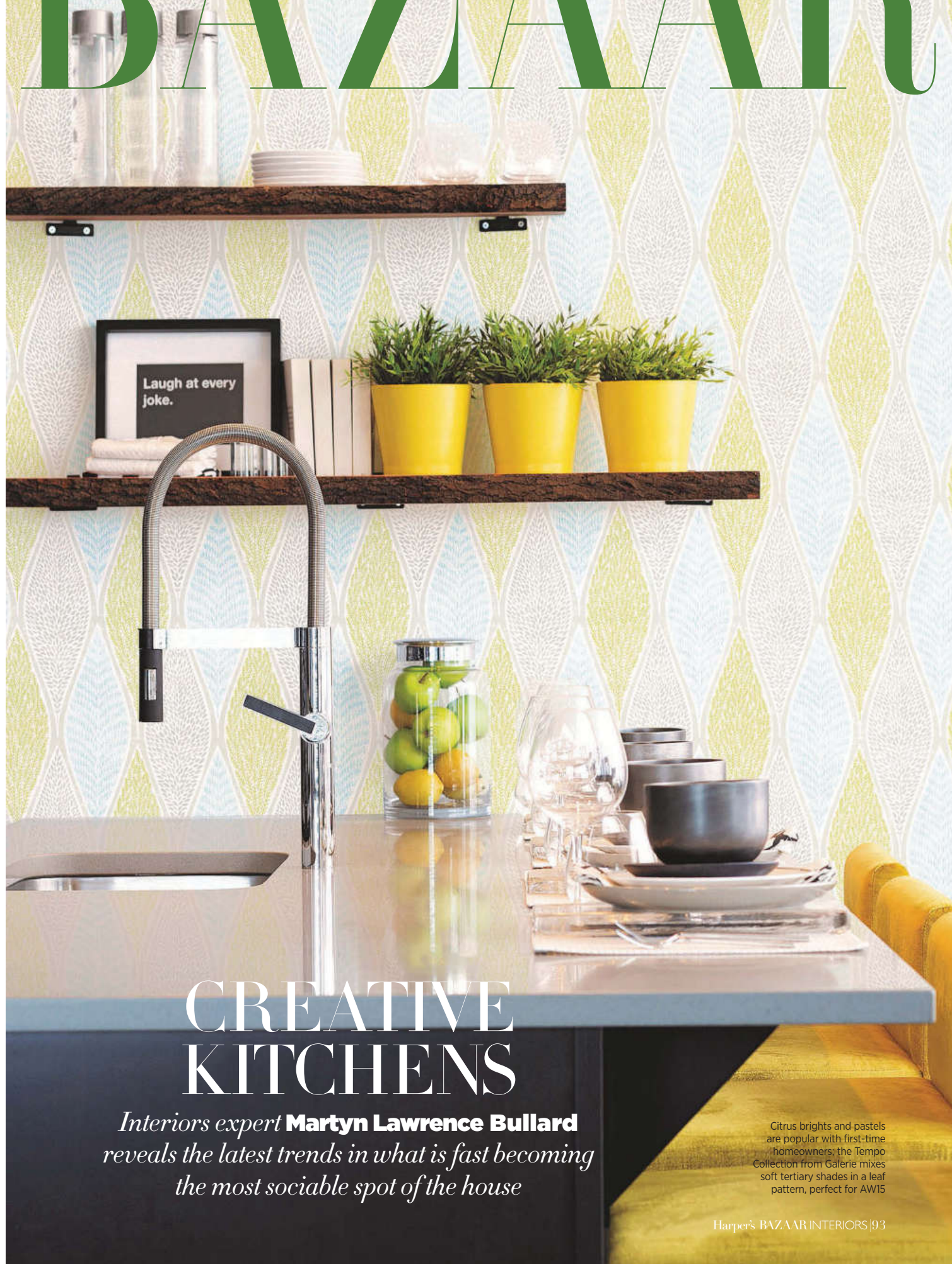
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CREATIVE KITCHENS

*Interiors expert **Martyn Lawrence Bullard** reveals the latest trends in what is fast becoming the most sociable spot of the house*

Citrus brights and pastels are popular with first-time homeowners; the Tempo Collection from Galerie mixes soft tertiary shades in a leaf pattern, perfect for AW15



MARTYN
LAWRENCE
BULLARD,
INTERIOR
DESIGNER

COLONIAL VIBES The colonial style kitchen is seeing a comeback with people wanting to add vintage charm and an exotic flavour to their cooking spaces. Mixing textures on cabinetry will create interest within the room, teamed with grass cloth and natural woven fibres for the tabletop linens and upholstered chairs.

BLURRED LINES The boundary between entertaining spaces and utilitarian spaces has never before been so blurred. Kitchens today are much more than just a space to cook in; they have become highly sociable living spaces where friends and family congregate, and must be treated as such. Instead of a breakfast table and chairs, try small upholstered club chairs and a 27-inch high table rather than the standard 30 inches. This creates a cosy space for eating, chatting and lounging in the kitchen and caters to many different options of entertaining. Add lamps to the counter top space instead of standard task lighting. This makes the space more intimate and inviting.

BOLD AS BRASS The use of brass as a material for kitchen accessories is a leading trend for 2015/16, especially within fittings such as taps, handles and cabinetry details. Even appliances are being designed with brass or golden colourways.

STONE WORKS I love stone for counter tops and splashbacks and today the options for finishes are extremely wide. The leathered look is extremely tactile and looks just as good on granite as it does on marble. Instead of standard white marble or limestone, I like to use green Brazilian marbles or greys like bleu de savoir, honed so the grain and veining comes out to show the richness of its natural texture. Coloured stones with book-matched details are a big trend moving forward in kitchen design.

MONOCHROME MATCH

"Monochrome is always in style, and now more than ever. As well as modern kitchens, this trend is also being translated into traditional and vintage spaces.

Black and white is a very powerful statement, especially when used on wall striping or on the floor and tile work. In contemporary kitchens, white cabinets with a black stone counter top and splashback will always be a classic and timeless look."

Martyn's monochrome kitchen in LA has a modern farmhouse aesthetic





PHOTOGRAPHY BY AASIVA JAGADEESH

Gaggenau has created a fully functioning kitchen in Fairmont The Palm with a combi-steam oven, induction cooktop, espresso machine and drinks climate cabinet, plus four smaller stations for class members, each installed with induction cooktops



MASTERCHEF CHALLENGE

Chef Palette by Gaggenau is a new culinary concept in Fairmont The Palm, where guests and corporate parties can enjoy a gastronomic cooking class learning the arts of sushi, Greek cuisine, pasta and pastries, amongst others. Sous chef Kyle Grant says: "Because of the ease and efficiency of Gaggenau's appliances, our clients are able to cook delicious dishes and really enjoy the experience." ➤

“LIKE TVs, THINNER IS BETTER. WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS USING 2CM-THICK SLABS, CREATE A SLEEK KITCHEN USING SILESTONE THAT’S 12MM THIN – IT’S LIGHTWEIGHT AND ELEGANT YET STRONG ”

Ali Maarrawi, Cosentino



BOLD COLOURS

While off-white and light grey remain enduringly popular, fresh, organic colours such as red and green are becoming fashionable options for kitchens in the UAE. If you want something truly original, opt for a Silestone quartz countertop in Cosentino's new premium colourways Coral Clay and Iron Bark, which use the company's unique technology to replicate the intricate veins of natural marble, but with a longer lifetime and stronger qualities than its naturally quarried counterpart.

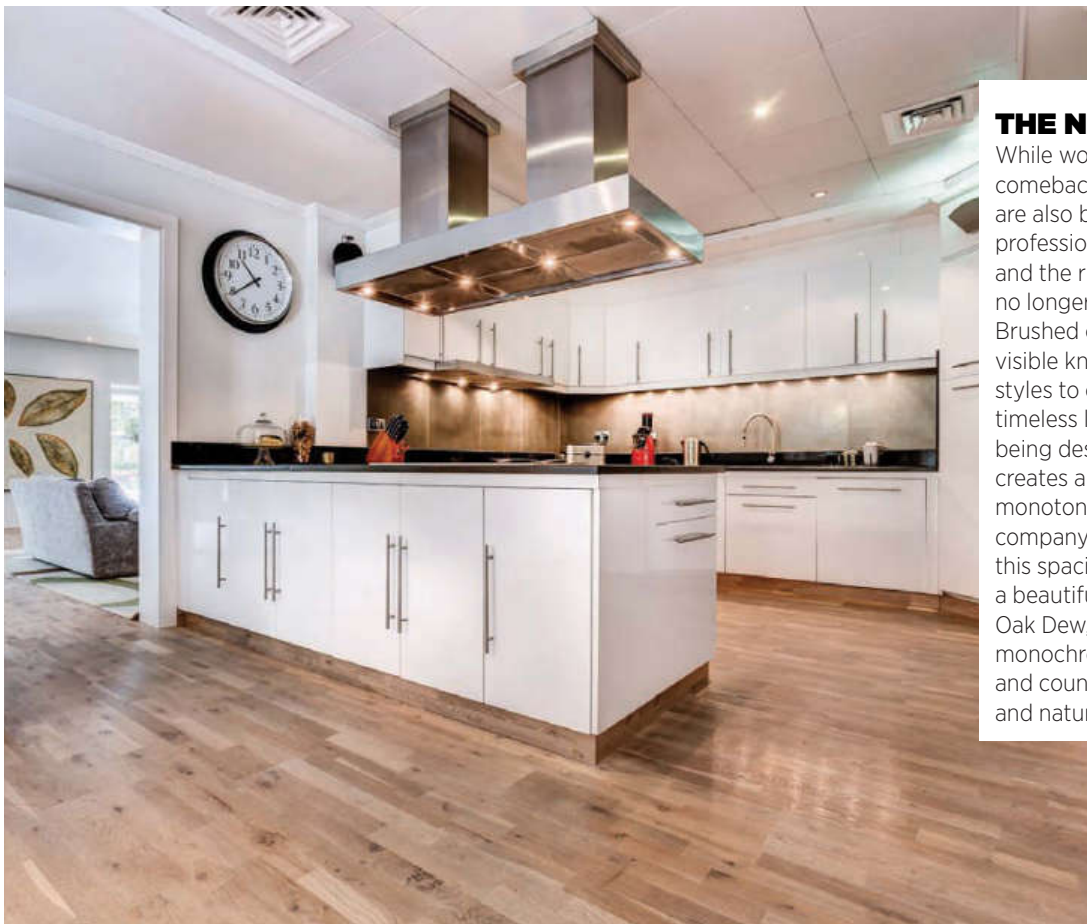
Countertops made from Silestone quartz in Kensho, from the Zen Series, available at Cosentino

bulthaup b3
kitchen in a
family home
by the Baltic
Sea, available
at Obegi Home



NATURAL AFFINITY

You'd never guess this modern kitchen was set in a medieval manor house on the Danish island of Fünen. The linear symmetry, sleek stainless steel finishes and the gentle grain of the golden wood in this bulthaup b3 design is modern yet retains an affinity to the serene surroundings of the family home, nestled within an idyllic park, encircled by a moat and fruit trees. Golden woods with a matte finish and rustic flooring exudes a warm, familial atmosphere.



THE NEW FLOOR

While wood is experiencing a kitchen comeback in cabinetry design, floors are also being inspired. With professional installation, regulated AC and the right aftercare, wood floors are no longer relegated to cooler climates. Brushed oak, white-washed finishes, visible knots and parquet floors are styles to consider for a fashionable yet timeless look. And, with many kitchens being designed open-plan, wood creates a seamless look that avoids monotony. Dubai-based Swedish company Nordic Homeworx enhanced this spacious kitchen in The Lakes with a beautiful wood floor and skirting in Oak Dew, soothing the stark monochrome palette of the cabinetry and counter top with its warm tones and natural grains. ➤

Elegant Oak Dew
flooring from Kährs,
European producers
of high-quality wood
floors, available
exclusively at Nordic
Homeworx

BESPOKE BATHROOMS

Bazaar Interiors look at the latest innovations and trends to personalise the most personal of spaces...

MASCULINE MINIMALISM

The first Kartell by Laufen monobrand opened its doors during Milan's Salone del Mobile in the city's design hub, Brera District, with a space conceived by Ludovica and Roberto Palomba, the most modern interpreters of bathroom design. Masculine tones, minimal lines, efficient ergonomics and ambient lighting lead the collection. Here, black gloss gives the sink console and fixtures a glamorous yet masculine edge, while floating sanitaryware is clean and fuss-free.



Masculine minimalism is on display with the Crystal Black collection, Kartell by Laufen



DIRK
SCHILMOELLER,
HANSGROHE
MIDDLE EAST

SEAMLESS SHOWERS: The floor-level shower that seamlessly adjoins the rest of the bathroom surface is the latest trend in bathroom planning. Bathroom owners are becoming more aware of the benefits of visual spaciousness and the freedom to move around. Step-free access to a pleasurable shower experience can be considered synonymous with contemporary bathroom architecture.

TRANSPARENCY: There is a growing popularity for openness and clarity in living spaces. This proclivity for open design is evident in new ideas for shower spaces that blend in seamlessly with the architecture, such as floor-level showers, an encompassing use of glass, and the absence of frames or door mechanisms.

NATURAL COMFORT: The comforting appeal of wood works really well in the bathroom, whether it's on the floor or the wash basin console. Not only does this natural material convey warmth, it also brings a grounding element into the home. Used on the floor, it provides a smooth transition from the bathroom to other living areas, and has become a popular alternative to tiles.

GENERATION X, Y Z: The concept of the cross-generational bathroom is based on the desire to make life in the bathroom easier and more convenient for all age groups. It focuses on non-slip surfaces and flush-to-floor shower areas, plus appliances with intuitive and ergonomic operation.

Hansgrohe's Raindance Select range enables you to 'select your shower pleasure' at the touch of a button, complemented by ergonomically shaped handles and clear display symbols for ease of use. ➤



Hansgrohe's Rainmaker Select shower provides an optimal experience

SENSORY SPA

Never before has the 'spa at home' experience been so highly sought after. Recreate the feeling of Zen serenity with a monochromatic neutral colour scheme in shades like sunbaked sand, fawn and putty, untreated woods, porcelain tiling with a tactile finish, and clear linear symmetry.



The smooth tree-like limbs of Hansgrohe's Axor bath mixer and Universal accessories adds to the natural ambient

“THE CONCEPT OF THE CROSS-GENERATIONAL
BATHROOM IS BASED ON THE DESIRE TO MAKE
LIFE IN THE BATHROOM EASIER”

Dirk Schilmoeller, Hansgrohe Middle East



MATERIAL MIX

Materials such as wood and brass transverse kitchens and bathrooms for AW15, adding a relaxed, urban vibe to accessory displays. Play with elements for an interesting juxtaposition, teaming blonde oak, burnished brass, unpolished stones such as granite, and even accents of exposed concrete.

Simplify by project-
based collective,
Groupwork Studio



FASHIONABLE FINISHES

Rich gold and rose copper fixtures add warmth and elegance to small, compact bathrooms, where the details are more prominent. Complement honey-golds with rich chocolates and inky blacks. Conversely, concrete has also become increasingly popular throughout 2015, creating an industrial-chic look, especially when juxtaposed with basins and tubs with an unusual aesthetic.



Award-winning
designs, the ME
by Starck range
and the Paiova
5 bathtub, both
Duravit

WOODLAND RETREAT

In contrast to the high-tech bathrooms that impress with touch-screen technology, intelligent radiators and ambient lighting, sometimes simpler things are more effective. Scandinavia remains an enduringly inspirational aesthetic, with clean lines and form following function. A stand-alone oval bath tub creates a cosy cocoon, while wooden coat stands, laddered shelving and a salvaged chair adds imaginative, rustic charm – even if they don't dry your towels. The antler branches add a playful touch to encapsulate the look. ■

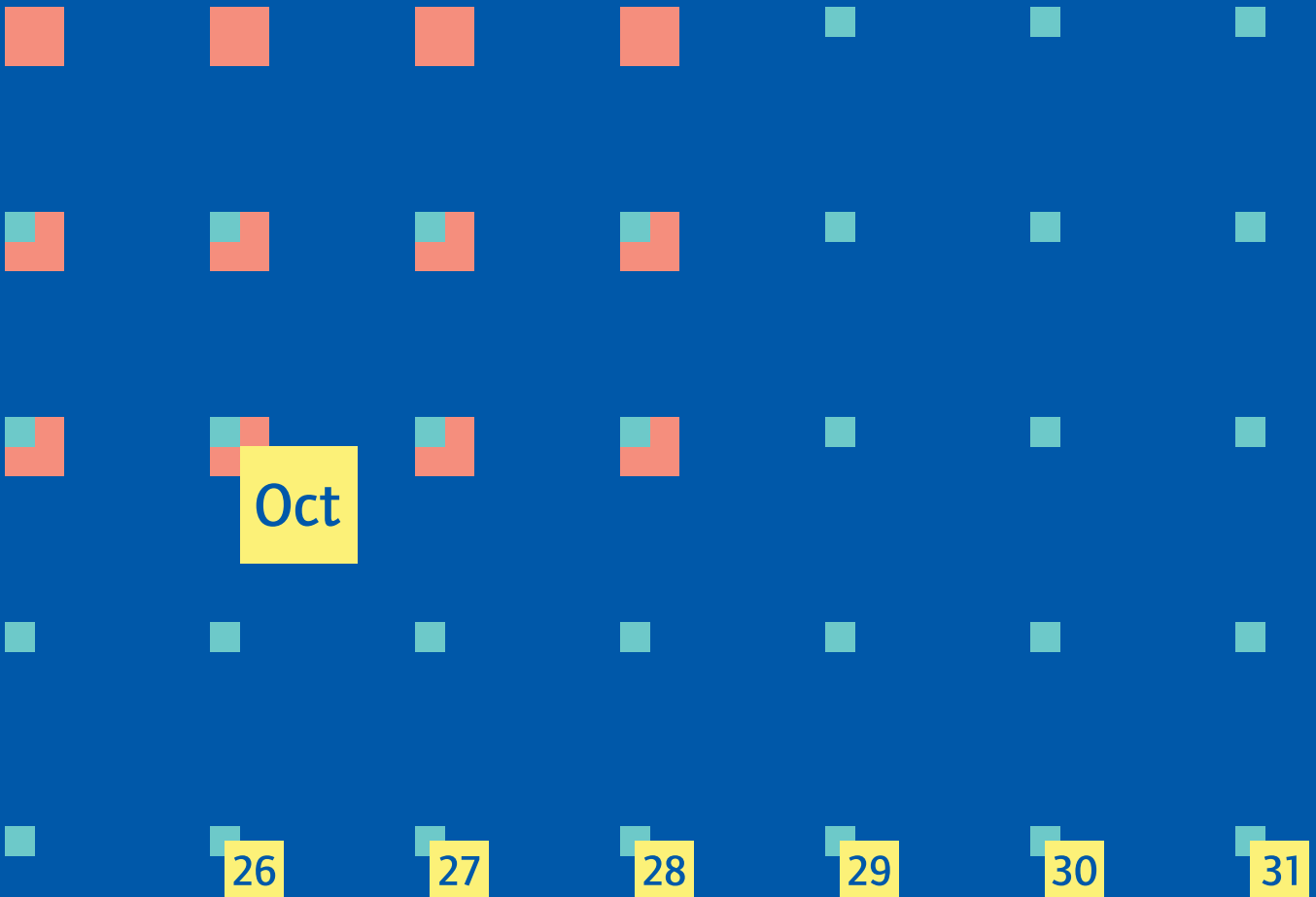


Walls and floor painted in Grey Teal, Inox and Shallows, all Little Greene; Thinn Kurv bath from BC Designs

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dubaidesignweek.ae

Harper's BAZAAR ESCAPE

DESTINATION: DESIGN

Set out on a voyage of discovery around the most fashionably furnished hotels around the world

COMPILED BY ELEANOR JOSLIN AND STEPHANIE MÄHL, CO-FOUNDER OF DISCOVER & DELIVER

India Mahdavi's Vera Cruz table at Monte Carlo Beach hotel creates a scenic vantage point

Harper's BAZAAR INTERIORS | 103

ALTAR HANGING LIGHT

**As seen in: Cheval Blanc
Courchevel 1850, France;
Copperhill Mountain Lodge, Sweden**

Kevin Reilly, the man made famous for his innovative luminaire collections, revolutionised the lighting industry with the Altar Hanging Light. Based on his iconic candle motifs, his light sculptures fuse bronze with wax, constructed to radiate the same ambience and soft glow of candlelight. The Altar Hanging Light exudes industrial elegance, classic

minimalism and understated glamour and is wonderfully placed within nature-inspired design destinations, from chateau halls and mountain lodge living rooms to beachside villas and wood-panelled bars. Copperhill Mountain Lodge in Åre, Sweden, perching above the tree line at the top of Förberget Mountain, was opened in 2008 at the hands of world-renowned architect Peter Bohlin. Here, the Altar Hanging Light complements its rustic environs and the contemporary interiors of dark wood, copper and animal hide upholstery.

*Altar Hanging Light, designed by Kevin Reilly,
from Dhs19,827*

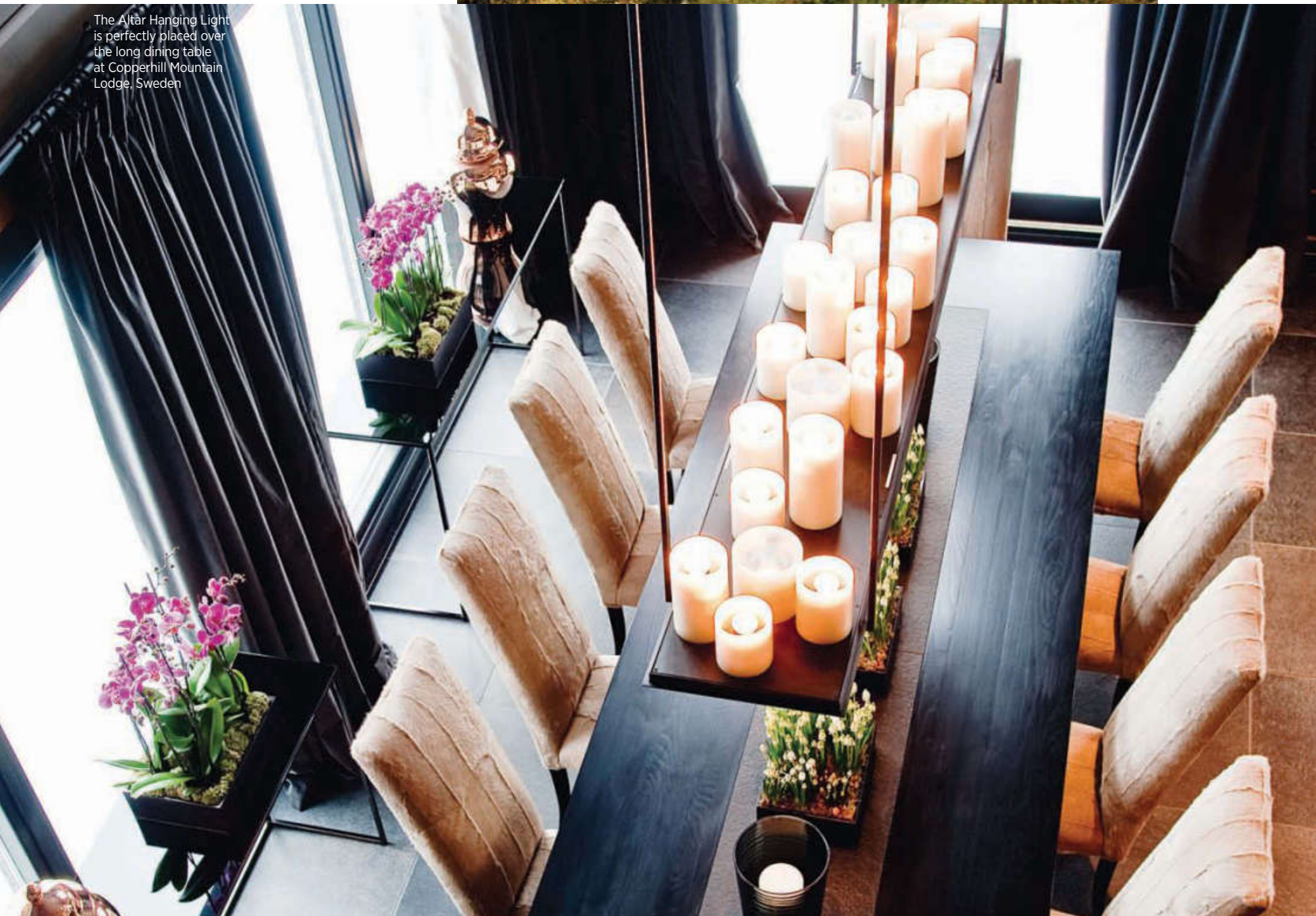
Contemporary architecture strikes a pose at the top of Förberget Mountain in the ski valley of Åre



ONE OF A KIND

With Scandinavia's design reputation it's surprising that it has only one mountainside design hotel – Bohlin's Copperhill Mountain Lodge, which ran over budget by a cool Dhs100million. High design standards carry a high price tag...

The Altar Hanging Light is perfectly placed over the long dining table at Copperhill Mountain Lodge, Sweden





The Barcelona Day Bed creates linear symmetry

DESIGN MIX

Philippe Starck's first hotel in Brazil pays homage to the golden age of bossa nova. From Brazilian Ipe flooring and piquiá tree trunk reception desks, to Grecian marble, Argentinian brick and Chinese onyx, Hotel Fasano Rio de Janeiro is a hybrid of materials and nationalities.



Picture-perfect views of Rio's mountains from Hotel Fasano's ocean-blue pool

BARCELONA DAY BED

As seen in: Conservatorium, Amsterdam; Mandarin Oriental Paris; Hotel Fasano Rio de Janeiro

The precisely proportioned Barcelona Day Bed by renowned architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe was created as a chair worthy of royalty. When Ludwig was selected to design the German Pavilion for the 1929 International Exposition in Barcelona, he integrated resting places for the King and Queen of Spain, resulting in the classic Barcelona Collection. Both the architecture and product design of the Barcelona Day Bed has since been recognised as a defining achievement of modern design excellence, exemplifying elegance and minimal simplicity. As one of the most highly regarded lounge beds it has become a stylish statement piece within public and private spaces — part bed, part lounge chair, part ottoman, it is multifaceted in form and function and represents utilitarian design at its best. The Barcelona Day Bed graces design-led establishments such as the exclusive Hotel Fasano Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, designed by Philippe Starck. Ludwig's daybed, manufactured by Knoll, stretches across the deluxe bedroom suites and creates linear symmetry between the bedroom and living room aspects and the stunning Ipanema Beach outside.

Barcelona Day Bed designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, made by Knoll, Dhs45,812



BISHOP, VERA CRUZ, STARR

As seen in: Hôtel Thoumieux, Paris; Condesa df, Mexico; Monte Carlo Beach, Monaco

Now a regular feature in design hotels across the globe, the Bishop Stool was first created for India Mahdavi's Condesa df Hotel, Mexico, to introduce a cool material to the project. The hotel has a simple yet dramatic interior, accentuated by a cool colour palette of turquoise, white, dark wood and a spritz of citrus. The ceramic interpretation of the Bishop chess piece is now considered one of her classic designs — it's graphic, chic, modern and pliable, with its dual functionality as a side table or stool. Also in evidence is Mahdavi's sculptural Vera Cruz dining and coffee table, with a smooth, organic void in the heart of the base. Curved forms and rounded, smooth edges are signature elements of her work, evoking the most natural and innocent of shapes while being contemporary and statement. Her Bishop Stool and Starr table lodge at the Monte Carlo Beach hotel in Monaco, which the Parisian architect, interior designer and product designer renovated in 2009, taking the hotel back to its original vision of the 1920s. Inspired by the Riviera, she has dressed the hotel in soft blues and greens, giving the sensation of living on a boat deck.

Bishop Stool designed by India Mahdavi, from Dhs3,431

Mahdavi's shape-shifting Starr table accentuates the curves of the staircase at the Monte Carlo Beach hotel



Soak up panoramic views of the Aegean Sea's volcanic islands from Grace Santorini

COLOUR CODE

Wherever you venture on the Cyclades islands off the coast of Greece, you're sure to spot the Acapulco chair, chilling in lawned gardens, relaxing poolside, or sitting on the beach. Its shell comes in a range of acid-pop colours, from candy pink to lemon yellow, although blue ciel is the clear winner, bringing a drop of the ocean inland.

ACAPULCO CHAIR

As seen in: Grace Santorini; W Barcelona; Wythe Hotel, New York City

First produced in Mexico in the '50s and named after the legendary Pacific resort of Acapulco, the original designer of the Acapulco Chair is still unknown. Legend has it that a French tourist was inspired to design a chair for the tropics after becoming uncomfortably hot in the Mexican sunshine while sitting in a wooden chair. Taking inspiration from traditional Mayan hammocks, the Frenchman designed the chair with a 'breathable' structure, a now-iconic cradle that continues to be manufactured by OK Design, a young, dynamic design studio based in Copenhagen that employs a strict ethical code. The Acapulco Chair unifies tradition with innovation and harmonises the function of ergonomic comfort with a retro-modern aesthetic. Its weave cradles the body, its clean lines create an air of casual sophistication, its material is eco-friendly, while its flexible yet durable vinyl cords offer superior comfort. Chosen by design hotels across the world, including the Grace Santorini, the W Barcelona and the Wythe Hotel, New York, for its ability to keep guests cool, this has become the chair of choice for design destinations with stunning outdoor lounges and terraces.

Acapulco Chair made by OK Design, from Dhs1,792



A flock of Acapulcos bask in the sunset on the beach at W Barcelona

Weekend whirl Niyama, Maldives

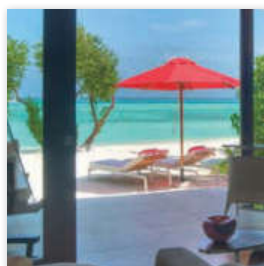
Given the options to play or chill, this idyllic island guarantees a relaxing holiday



After a quick four-hour flight from Dubai to the capital of the Maldives, my husband and I were whisked through the bustle of Malé airport to catch our seaplane, a quick 50-minute trip to Niyama, in the Dhaalu Atoll region. On arrival, we discover the island lives up to all the idyllic Maldivian clichés of crystal clear turquoise waters and powder-soft white sands – a welcome change to the high-rise skyscrapers of Dubai.

When it opened four years ago, Niyama was your classic Maldivian retreat, made famous by Subsix, the world's first underwater nightclub. This year, a newly-developed connecting island called 'Play' has unveiled 48 beach-front villas, dedicated to keeping adults and their children entertained without disturbing couples in the adjacent hideaway. There, on 'Chill' island, visitors can choose to stay in one of 40 over-water villas and 94 idyllic beachside retreats. Connected by a bridge, each isle has its own swimming pools and 24-hour dining venues with gourmet cuisine. As they lie just over a kilometre in length, it's easy to cross between the two, using the resort's bicycles and golf buggies.

After a welcome glass of bubbly and a refreshing cold towel, we were taken to a chic one-bedroom beach-pool suite on the 'Play' side of the beautiful resort. Our secluded haven backed onto our very own glistening beach and boasted a large private pool with canopied sun loungers, topped off with breathtaking views of the pristine Indian



Ocean. All suites feature a sophisticated neutral colour palette with contemporary décor and huge outdoor showers that are stunning in their own right.

Collapsing onto our luxurious sun loungers, we took a moment to gaze at the gorgeous vista before taking advantage of the resort's amenities – the stunning beaches, pools, all-day dining and abundance of water activities.

Taking a scenic bike ride through the island's central grove of lush palm trees to the main hub of the resort, we soon found an exemplary range of first-class restaurants. Alongside casual dining at Epicure and Blu, which offered international cuisine as we relaxed poolside, we tried Tribal, an African/South-American-inspired restaurant, and later Nest, a unique treetop venue with walkways and suspended pods woven throughout the boughs. We felt like we were in the middle of a Far East jungle, with delicious Asian and teppanyaki food.

After a relaxed lunch at Blu, we explored what the resort had to offer water lovers; paddle-boarding, kayaking, catamaran sailing, cruises and reef diving gave us plenty of options. Extensive marine life means snorkelers and divers

regularly see sharks, manta rays and turtles; we saw the turtles – and avoided the sharks! During a sunset cruise led by a resident marine biologist, we were lucky enough to encounter hundreds of spinner dolphins, who swam and played cheekily alongside our boat; this was a truly memorable afternoon.

To finish off our holiday, we took a boat to Edge, a spectacular circular venue perched in the middle of the sea, for sundowners on the terrace. All too quickly our stay was over, yet we felt rested and revitalised, and ready to return to the real world. niyama.peraquum.com ■



From the top: Stunning views from Niyama; the heavenly 'Play' island; private beach access from the resort's luxury studio suites; a glorious sunset at Edge; gourmet sushi at Nest; inside the chic Beach-Pool suite

The Chagall Suite features colourful murals in the artist's signature modernist stroke



FROM RUSSIA WITH ART

If you missed the celebration of Marc Chagall's art at Opera Gallery's wonderfully curated exhibition, Icons of Art, in Dubai earlier this year, immerse yourself in his work with a stay at The Carlton Hotel St. Moritz in Switzerland. The hotel's new Junior Suites pay homage to Russian artists Chagall and Kandinsky, with interior designer Carlo Rampazzi creating the impression that they'd spent their evenings painting in these very rooms. Chagall and Kandinsky Junior Suites from Dhs4,890 per night. carlton-stmoritz.ch

The Cool Corner Suite at W Istanbul with exposed brick walls and light flexes for a raw edge



ESCAPE The latest globe-trotting gossip NEWS

THE W = WOW FACTOR

The acclaimed Turkish designer Mahmut Anlar, who previously worked with Emaar UAE on the Tuscan Valley Project in Istanbul, has recently finished designing W Istanbul. The hotel captures the energy of a cosmopolitan city with its interactive art installation at the entrance and an Ottoman-inspired W Lounge. The hotel also features a stylish Cool

Corner Suite that promises a spectacular view of the Bosphorus. After an energetic day exploring Istanbul or in preparation for an exhilarating night out, try the new W Day Spa complete with two treatment rooms for Turkish baths and hammam. Rooms from Dhs1,085 per night for two adults plus breakfast (prepaid package). wistanbul.com.tr

BACK TO SCHOOL

Elias El-Indari, founder of the Middle East's leading men's lifestyle site smf-blog.com, is the new regional 'friend' of the brand. As an international blogger who is constantly on the move, Elias is the perfect UAE ambassador. As a global man of style we're sure he appreciates Tumi's latest collaboration Stateside, Public School X Tumi Collection, inspired by the backpacks that Public School's New York design duo Chow and Osborne wore at high school. +971 4 339 8536

Public School collection, from Dhs900, Tumi



Bazaar loves... Celebrate design this autumn at Maison&Objet Paris, September 4-8, and neighbouring London Design Festival, September 19-27, where design takes over the capitals. maison-objet.com; londondesignfestival.com

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FARFETCHED FOOD

*A new book from Farfetch and Assouline presents a
curated collection of food and fashion recommendations by
the world's foremost tastemakers*

Words by NAUSHEEN NOOR

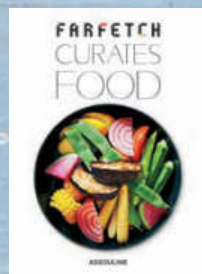
SCALLOP COOKED OVER BURNING JUNIPER BRANCHES, BY SWEDISH CHEF MAGNUS NILSSON



Leandra Medine at Sant Ambroeu,
Lafayette Street, New York City

When travelling, who hasn't relied on the expertise of that effortlessly fashionable friend? One who always knows the best places to explore, shop and eat out, in their native city? Assouline's latest pocketbook, *Farfetch Curates Food*, is a culinary take on the 'little black book', a curated collection of recommendations by some of the world's most fashionable tastemakers, chefs, mixologists, gallerists and boutique owners. This is the first in a series of three books by luxury e-tailer Farfetch.com, our go-to for designer men's and womenswear, with each petite hardback exploring a different topic – food, design and art.

Part culinary guide and part inspirational travel journal, the first book picks up on two of the most au courant of trends: self-curation and all things epicurean. In the forward by fashion critic Tim Blanks, he describes how the advent of the internet age has led to the democratisation of curation, where anyone with a phone and a following can broadcast their opinions. He writes: "Once, curation was a specialist expertise largely confined to the art world. Now, technology has turned everyone into curators. But the Internet – The Great Leveller – has replaced expertise with the force of personality. That's now the hook you need to fish authoritative opinion out of the ►



CURATED MORSEL

The pocket-sized Farfetch Curates Food, Dhs92, Assouline.com





Farfelch's favourite seafood lunches include options for healthy measures such as a don ceviche, versus decadent lobster bisque mac 'n' cheese

Dishes from
Ceviche and Le
Bun restaurants,
both in London



"my generation are doing that"

"protect my family's food culture because not many in

"I just want to

Douglas Ng's fishball
noodles from Fishball
Story in Singapore

bottomless ocean of information that the Web has unleashed.”

Indeed, the book does lean quite heavily on the musings and recommendations of trendsetters with sizable social media followings within its 96 pages. Elettra Wiedmann – model, socialite, Vogue v-log presenter and author of the healthy-eating blog, *Impatient Foodie* – shares her breakfast tips and recipe for the perfect omelette to kick-start the day. “I want to make smart food choices, but I have a busy and demanding life,” writes Elettra. “[My blog] is more of a journal, and it helps me to figure out how to balance my food desires with my life constraints.” The *Man Repeller*’s Leandra Medine lists her favourite New York City lunch spots replete with sartorial recommendations (enjoy the quinoa salad at Sant Ambroeus in SoHo wearing ivory leather culottes and a white blouse, suggests the fashionista). Fauchon-trained pastry chef and owner of L’Eclair de Genie, Christophe Adam, reveals his ambitions to open patisseries in Dubai, Tokyo, Switzerland and New York, introducing the world to his signature éclair flavours, such as lemon meringue and salted caramel.

But that’s not to say the book does not delve deeper in the connection between food and culture. KF Seetoh chronicles a new generation of Singapore’s famous street food hawkers, who are reinventing the businesses while staying true to this historical tradition. “The hawker movement began fifty years ago, when travelling street food vendors were relocated from their often dilapidated areas to permanent residences, known as hawker centres,” he says. “Originally created to reduce environmental harm, they produced an unintended but agreeable effect – the preservation of Singapore’s migrant comfort food culture. At any one time, there are sellers offering Chinese, Indian, Malay, Nonya, British, Japanese and Singapore street food.”

Yasuko Furuta, the designer behind the cult Japanese label Toga, takes readers on a vegetarian tour in pescatarian-focused Tokyo, where much can get lost in translation. “Does fish count as vegetarian?” is a question Yasuko hears from waiters more often than she’d like in a city where there are “1,000 rules on how to slice salmon, and one bluefin tuna can fetch Dhs998,000”.

Chefs Blaine Wetzel, Magnus Nilsson, Dan Hunter and Kobe Desramaults discuss how the latest gastro-trend of foraging, the pursuit of hyper-local ingredients, has transformed their

NEW FASHION CAPITALS

With fashion weeks popping up all over the globe, the book profiles members of the fash-pack in five rising fashion cities, Moscow, Copenhagen, Sydney, São Paulo and Seoul for insider tips on where to dine and drink



Salad of grass-fed Wagyu beef, rock samphire and Otway shiitake at Brae in Birregurra, Australia

respective establishments in the U.S., Sweden, Australia and Belgium into sites of food pilgrimages. “We cook in direct relation to nature, time, and place,” says Wetzel, “using only ingredients that are the freshest and at their peak on the island that day – from bright wild berries in the spring, to the many varieties of mushrooms in the fall, and everything in between.”

Tim Wendelboe, the owner of the eponymous, award-winning Oslo roastery, writes about a burgeoning global coffee culture. “Coffee has changed radically since I started as a barista in 1998,” he recalls. “Coffee was an everyday product and a fuel, mostly sold as a blend to make sure it always tasted the same. Today coffee has grown up. [...] Even the best restaurants in the world are taking their coffee as seriously as their wine.” He then reveals seven steps to making the perfect cup.

For those who prefer their daily imbibement steeped with leaves rather than beans, similar guidelines for drinking tea are laid out by Jens de

Gruyter, proprietor of the Berlin tea shop, Paper & Tea. “You can brew high-quality tea multiple times,” he declares. “Hardly any of our teas are more expensive than your average cup, as you can brew them two, three, or four times. With each steeping, the flavour of the tea changes, allowing you to focus more on the taste.”

It is these insightful anecdotes that point to fashion and food’s versatility as universal languages, that makes the book more than just something ornamental. The graphic layout and bright colours keep readers engaged. The food photography and illustrations, in Farfetch’s slightly mod-ish style, are mesmerising. Scattered throughout are tidbits of information which point towards a global movements towards more informed, passionate and fashionable eating. As Tim describes, “a restaurant find is the natural concomitant of a backstreet retail discovery. It’s the kind of information that fashion nomads trade like stocks and bonds. And that is, in fact, a curatorial activity.” ■



L'art de VIVRE

Marina de Coatgoureden explores experiential dining concepts around the world

INEVITABLY THERE COMES A TIME when someone in my social circle asks what's the most glamorous event I have ever attended (or in my case planned), or the finest restaurant I have dined at. My reply, depending on the person asking, will range from Michelin-starred soirees that took months of meticulous planning to spontaneous low-key adventures which were sensational for reasons you would not expect. **"WE LIVE IN A FANTASY WORLD,** a world of illusion. The great task in life is to find reality," said author and philosopher Dame Jean Iris Murdoch DBE. Despite our dependence on sight when it comes to dining, it actually misleads us in the most basic of ways. By eliminating it one can redefine how we engage with a space and environment – transforming the experience of an entire menu. Dans le Noir in London leaves guests to navigate their menu in pitch black. Served by visually impaired waiters as guides, the menu is only revealed once dinner finishes – and you'd be surprised how off the mark your guesses are when sight is taken away. A similar concept, Noire, has recently opened at the Fairmont Dubai. Sensory stimulation is a powerful tool. **AS HUMANS WE HAVE EVOLVED TO BE VISUALLY DOMINANT** but designers must also invest in stimulating not only sight but all the other senses; this allows us to differentiate the experience and our understanding of a space. **SUBLIMATION IS IBIZA'S NEW, EXCLUSIVE 12-SEATER RESTAURANT,** creating false realities on 360-degree screens, which heighten the dining and party experience. Created by Paco Roncero (to relive a dream), he works with chefs, engineers, illusionists,



An ornate Fabergé-style egg cup and gold tray elevates simple egg and soldiers to a luxurious level at Sublimotion in Ibiza

set designers, architects, choreographers and screenwriters, pioneering the dining stagecraft with technology to intensify the pleasure of eating. One moment you're submerged within a coral reef as seafood is served in a conch shell; the next you're in a ploughed field with a 'garden' of vegetables before you; or hot air balloons surround you as dessert floats down onto the table. Not only is this futuristic and fun but it engages all your senses to heighten both the taste of the food and the dining experience.

THEATRICAL CONCEPTS BREAK

DOWN THE WALL between passive dining and the service, inviting guests into a delightful world of adventure. London pop-up Marcos Meatballs entertains with comedic Mafia family brawls from the moment guests enter. This is a thrilling evening of murder mystery and unexpected fun with simple Italian food and wine! **CHALLENGING DESIGN CONVENTIONS HAS A POWERFUL EFFECT** on what we experience and remember. Tom Seller's Story features edible tableware – the candlewax is dripping lard for dunking bread. Guests are also invited to bring their favourite storybook with a message about their evening, creating a vast literary installation to make the evening all the more personal. The Institute of Making is a team of amazing scientists who can be found tinkering in their labs with the materiality of matter. They've recently patented cutlery made of anything from wood to gold, to pair with food and optimise the flavours. **TECHNOLOGY IS TAKING DINNER OFF THE PLATE** and spreading it around the room, creating unrivalled experiential dining scenarios never before tasted. Too many cooks can spoil the broth, but a whole production team will enhance it. ■



Kravet pillow,
Dhs1,540,
En Vogue

PRE-PARTY

We've loved the mix-up of metals this year and now fabrics are following suit with metallic clashes, so we can fuse gold with silver across curtains and cushions as well as lamps and furniture. Bring it home with the clean and sophisticated trio of bronze, silver and gold in Armani Casa's Joy Pillow, from Dhs1,856 at Finasi (above left).



Concrete
Wallpaper by
Piet Boon,
Dhs1,144 per
roll, Rockett St
George

URBAN EDGE

Take the shine off the trend with tarnished metals and exposed concrete surfaces. This urban-chic style is already proving to be a popular look in a number of new restaurants in the UAE



Sempé Collo Lungo
Cutlery Set, Alessi at
Tavola

SILVER SERVICE

While rose copper is still en vogue, this precious metal is making a kitchen comeback



Armchair,
Dhs2,395, 2XL



Arris Collection
Stainless Steel
Serving Bowl, Dhs493,
Wedgwood

Quite distinct from the rest of the Arris family (in gold, black and white with honeycomb detail), this stainless steel bowl is a sell-out accessory from the 2015 collection



TAUPE TABLES

Take a leaf out of Kelly Hoppen's book and pair sophisticated silver finishes and furniture with warm taupe. This neutral yet rich shade of griegie adds a feminine blush to this elegant dining room, left. She's invited *Harper's Bazaar* Interiors to view her own newly decorated apartment in London on September 29, and we'll be heading straight to the dining room for chic inspiration. *Bel Air Park* dining collection, Dhs49,000, Interiors



Desk Clock,
Dhs488,
Wedgwood



Peruvian chef Edgar Hurtado dishes up a colourful Esteros Ceviche at Garden

GARDEN OF PERU

Peruvian restaurants in Dubai have to beat the deliciously simple menu at Story Rooftop and the show-stopping spread at The Act before they get a revisit. Happy news, then, that the former's restaurateur Tomas Vindasius and the latter's chef Edgar Hurtado are behind new Peruvian eatery Garden, at JW Marriott Marquis. Hats off to Tomas, who created the concept with a mere Dhs183,657 budget, a donation from Marriott's global scheme Project Canvas, which supports culinary start-ups. The food is delicious, although not always strictly Peruvian – fancy seeing you here, mozzarella ball. Try the tangy ceviche infused with limey 'tiger's milk', and the Patagonian toothfish and chimichure, made with notably fresh-tasting fish.
+971 56 224 0956

GRACEFUL GASTRONOMY

It's easy to see why Grace Santorini is touted as one of the best restaurants to go to on the beautiful island, and not just for its unique Greek-with-a-twist menu (such as sea bass moussaka). After getting pleasantly lost around the maze of Imerovigli, a village that clings to the cliffs on the north-west side of the island, we found the restaurant perched on a perfect corner plot with nothing but a breath-taking spread of the Caldera ahead, with fiery rays of the setting sun kissing the tops of the Cyclades volcanic islands, and



Dinner is served with a panoramic view at Grace Santorini

sending dramatic shimmers across the darkening ocean. The food at the boutique hotel matched the impressive view, with a gastronomic Mediterranean fusion menu by head chef Spyros Agious. Home-made breads to

start (try the carrot), a cute cup of seafood broth with a sharp citrus bite, and orzo pasta soaking up a sea-urchin-infused soup, served by the most considerate waiters and barmen I've met (Dubai's front-of-house staff could learn a thing or two).

gracehotels.com/santorini



The best
ABROAD

TOP TABLES

The best new restaurants for the discerning diner



Delicious desserts at The Ivy finishes a three-venue dinner

TRIPLE TREAT

Why settle for a three-course meal when you can enjoy a three-venue feast? Take a gastronomic tour around Jumeirah Emirates Towers with a new concept that takes in three acclaimed restaurants. Start with cocktails, canapés and stunning city views at Alta Badia on the 51st floor, followed by appetisers in the kitchen – giving a whole new meaning to chef's table. Go behind the scenes as the chefs prepare burrata and octopus entrees while you watch from a private table. Head down to The Rib Room for a meat feast 'butcher's block', then finish at The Ivy for a delicious dessert platter and a mixology class. This makes fine dining fun as the maitre d's usher your party from one culinary concept to another. *The Gastronomer's Dinner*, 7.30pm, maximum 10 people, Dhs750 per person; +971 4 366 5866

Bazaar Loves

Like an Asian Qbara or a sultrier Zuma, Novikov at Sheraton Grand Hotel on Sheikh Zayed Road will no doubt become a popular haunt for those who like to dine then dance. With huge cracked-metal orbs shading diners in red ambient lighting, a DJ booth taking centre stage on the glass-panelled galleried balcony above, and huge slices



of Brazilian tree trunks serving as table tops, Novikov is certainly cool enough to rival other dinner-club restaurants in the city. The food, however, takes it to another level. Think tofu is tasteless? Think again. Fried in delicious seasoning of peppery spice, the tofu entrée was surprisingly delicious, even for the meat lovers at the table. The dim sum was arguably the best in Dubai, served super soft before the case became dry – as many venues are wont to do. A highlight of the evening was a trip to the open kitchen, where a frozen fish counter was packed with ice and a veritable ocean of fish. Avoid if you are squeamish – the lobsters and crayfish will wave for rescue with their antennas.



+971 4 388 8744



Surf 'n' turf goes gourmet at The Black Lion

HEAR ME ROAR

The new American gastro pub The Black Lion in H Hotel on Sheikh Zayed Road – replacing Bapas – is inspired by New York's traditional public houses, although you can still expect a well-heeled crowd here. The menu offers pub favourites with a gourmet twist – tasty burgers are layered with veal bacon, the surf 'n' turf steaks are paired with lobster, while the prawn cocktail is drizzled with Bloody Mary – although the sauce was too bitter for our liking. Western expats will like the air of nostalgia from lively jukebox classics, the dark wood panelling and faux fireplace, while sipping fine wine and vintage port. Try the crab cakes and the lamb hot pot for heart-warming fare. theblacklion.ae

SETTING THE SOCIAL SCENE

While the new InterContinental hotel in Dubai Marina has plenty to lure us there, such as Ynot Bar & Kitchen, Accents and Accents Deli, the pièce de résistance has finally arrived, with Jason Atherton's aptly named duo Marina Social and The Social Room. The Michelin-starred chef is no stranger to Dubai, opening Gordon Ramsay's Verre at the Hilton Dubai Creek in 2001, before moving to London to oversee Maze four years later. Now he returns to launch his first set of restaurants in the Middle East, bringing his globally successful Social brand and its popular tasting menu concept to the city. Roasted pigeon and goats cheese churros are some of the unusual fine-dine items to try. Head downstairs to Ynot for a cool urban vibe – the French oysters at this seafood tapas bar are reason enough to visit. Or savour Marina views from Accents, where you can pick out fresh ingredients and watch chefs cook in a live kitchen – try the spinach and mushroom tortellini for exquisite flavour. Both are furnished with funky modern-retro designs – play spot the brand instead of people watching. ihg.com



Enjoy front-row seats of Dubai Marina at Accents

SOCIAL WORLD

This year, Dubai and Sydney take Jason's Social set to eight venues in five countries



Crab Tavern is setting the trend for rustic urban dining

CASUAL NIGHTS

Crab Tavern has brought a touch of relaxed dining to Dubai – don't panic, there's still table service (and notably helpful, too). Taking up a corner spot on level nine in Media One Hotel, the eatery rocks a rustic-urban vibe, with exposed brick walls, high-top wooden counters and leather bar stools. Highlights include fast service, an inventive and extensive cocktail menu, a soft and sweet king crab, and a delicious brownie dessert with a biscuit treat inside. There's meat on the menu, too, for those who aren't shellfish fans. Head over for an easy mid-week bite to eat or pre-dance grub at the weekend.

+971 4 420 7489 ■



Want a home-cooked roast at the weekend? Get Gaucho to deliver the full works instead...



GAUCHO ANYWHERE

Get Gaucho delivered to your door with the launch of its gourmet takeaway service. Gaucho Anywhere will initially deliver to the Downtown and DIFC areas, and has plans to broaden its reach across Dubai later in the year. If you're heading to Beirut, check out Indie by Gaucho, an exciting new collaboration between the Argentine restaurant and Add-Mind (behind Iris Dubai, Iris Yas Island and WHITE Dubai). Located above the main restaurant, the lounge will bring together people from the world of fashion, art and design. gauchorestaurants.ae

TAPAS WITH ATTITUDE

Tapas spots don't get any cooler than Bar-ton, opening in vibrant Barcelona with ultra-minimalist chandeliers designed by Arik Levy for Vibia. The delicate lines of Wireflow explore presence through absence, creating a strong light-art display overhead across the vaulted ceiling. bartonbcn.com



Arik Levy's spider-web Wireflow chandeliers

ENTERTAIN These tantalising concepts will give you food for thought NEWS

BROOM IN BLOOM

Our Design Awards judge Lee Broom is unveiling his debut collection of vases at London Design Festival on September 23. His flagship store in super-cool Shoreditch will become The Flower Shop where a beautiful immersive floral display will blossom from his new 25-piece Podium collection. Downstairs, acclaimed food writer Pip McCormac will cook up edible floral fancies at The Flower Shop Kitchen. [September 23 to 27; leebroom.com](http://September23to27.leebroom.com)



L'OBJET OF DESIRE

With rich autumnal tones and luxurious Byzantium detailing, a dinner party decorated with L'Objet's AW15 Fortuny tabletop collection will give guests a taste for decadent design. While gold has always been a popular finish in the Gulf, mixing with bright colour gives it a modern edge for dinners, ornamental displays, centre pieces and festive feasts for Eid al-Adha at the end of September. Fortuny is a favoured collection of L'Objet founder Elad Yifrach. Available at Tanagra, +971 4 341 1084



Bazaar loves...

Our favourite organic market - Ripe - is back with a special evening pop-up of fresh fruit and vegetables produced by local farmers. Held at Burjuman Centre on September 17, 5pm to 10pm, Ripe Market is bigger than ever, with 30 stalls of artisanal craft and fashion joining the seasonal produce. Ripeme.com

Harper's BAZAAR INTERIORS

WHERE TO BUY

1st Dibs at 1stdibs.com; **2XL** 800 2XL (295); **40 Winks** 40winks.org; **@Home** +971 (0) 4 434 0877; **Aati Abu Dhabi** +971 (0) 2 602 7337; **Aati Dubai** +971 (0) 4 337 7825; **Alessi** at Tavola; **Alexander McQueen** alexandermcqueen.com; **Alsohome** alsohome.com; **Amara** amara.com; **Andrew Martin** +971 (0) 4 323 1388; **Arclinea** arclinea.it; **Armani/Casa** +971 (0) 4 437 3131; **Artemide** at Purity; **Arteriors Home** at Bloomingdale's Home; **Asprey** asprey.com; **Asprey Kempinski** +971 (0) 4 341 0000; **Astier de Villatte** at Couverture couvertureandthegarbstore.com; **Atelier S/Z** atelier-sz.com; **Athr Gallery** athrart.com; **Atmosphere Furnishing** +971 (0) 2 666 5053; **Avenue Interiors** +971 (0) 4 340 8955; **Axis71** axis71.com; **B&B Italia** +971 (0) 4 340 5797; **Barovier & Toso** at Modula Conceptio; **Barton** bartonbcn.com; **Bebe** +971 (0) 4 434 0614; **Benetti** benettiyachts.it; **Bernardaud** at Tanagra; **Berners Tavern** bernerstavern.com; **Bisazza** bisazza.it; **Blablakids** blablakids.com; **Blanc D'Ivoire** +971 (0) 4 321 8958; **Bisazza** +971 (0) 4 204 5252; **Bits and Pieces** +971 (0) 2 444 4120; **Bleu Nature** bleunature.com; **Bloomingdales Dubai** +971 (0) 4 350 5333; **Blue Belle Gray** at Bloomingdale's Home; **Boca Do Lobo** bocadolobo.com; **Bocci** bocci.ca; **Bo Concept** +971 (0) 4 341 4144; **Boffi** at Purity; **Bokja** at O'de Rose; **Bolia** bolia.com; **Bonaldo** bonado.it; **Boras Tapeter** at D.Tales; **Borsalino Hats** borsalinoinc.com; **Boucheron** +971 (0) 4 341 0039; **Boutique 1** +971 (0) 4 425 7888; **Brabbu** brabbu.com; **Brink** at Bloomingdale's Home; **Burgundy Designs** +971 (0) 4 338591; **Busaba Eathai** busaba.com; **By Koket** bykoket.com; **Carbon 12** +971 (0) 4 340 6016; **Carpe Diem** +971 (0) 4 344 4734; **Carwan Gallery** carwangallery.com; **Casafina Home Furniture** +971 (0) 4 345 7070; **Casamanara** casamanara.com; **Caskata** at Bloomingdale's Home; **Cassina** cassina.com; **Casapaïou** +971 (0) 4 338 8276; **Cassina** cassina.com; **Celine** at Bloomingdale's Home; **Chanel** +971 (0) 4 382 7100; **Charlotte Olympia** at Saks Fifth Avenue; **Chiltern Firehouse** at Chloe; **Chloe** at chloe.com; **Christopher Wool** wool735.com; **Christian Louboutin** +971 (0) 4 325 3935; **Christofle** christofle.com; **Cities** +971 4 343 4301; **Cle** +971 (0) 4 352 5150; **Comptoir 102** +971 (0) 4 385 4555; **Contemporary Art Platform** capkuwait.com; **Courtyard** +971 (0) 4 347 5050; **Crate and Barrel** +971 (0) 4 399 0125; **Cutler and Gross** cutlerandgross.com; **Cyrille Bieri Designs** +971 (0) 4 428 0033; **d3** dubaidesigndistrict.com; **Diane von Fürstenberg** at Boutique 1; **Dsquared2** +971 (0) 4 339 8709; **Dana Finnigan** danafinnigan.com; **DAY** day.dk; **Della Robbia** at Bloomingdales; **Delvaux** delvaux.com; **Dennis Parren** dennisparren.nl; **Deris Von Noten** at saksfifthavenue.com; **Design House Stockholm** at Kollektion & Co; **Design Mobl** +971 (0) 5 045 3735; **De Vecchi** devecchi.com; **Diane Von Furstenberg Home** at Bloomingdale's

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The founder of superstudio, Mohsin Jawaheri, on design classics

I've always had a passion

for design, ever since my childhood when my father would take me to his retail stores in the malls that were under construction or to design meetings. Post-recession, I saw an opportunity to fill the gap in the design market in Dubai. I worked tirelessly for years to convince many of our brands to come to the region before finally launching in 2012. They now know there's a young and growing market in the UAE. **I take pride in living in such a great country** where your imagination is your only limitation. After boarding school in the UK, I moved to Dubai in 1986. Since then the city has come a very long way in such a short time; being part of it is simply amazing. Dubai has given myself and superstudio this great opportunity to succeed. **Designers I admire include** Marcel Wanders, Davide Groppi and Sir Norman Foster. **I'm grateful to have had the opportunity** to sit in every desirable chair. If I could pick one chair to sit on, it would be the Vitra Lounge Chair by Charles & Ray Eames, designed in 1956, in the black edition. I currently have the Lounge chair at home but in its original finish. **I live in Downtown Dubai**, which is a great community with incredible views, and excellent security and amenities. My home décor is simple, with a Poltrona Frau Kennedy sofa designed by Jean-Marie Massaud as the centerpiece in the living room, along with a Flos Taccia table lamp designed by Achille & Pier Giacomo Castiglioni in 1962. The dining area has a Cassina La Rotonda table with a marble top surrounded by Tom Dixon Fan

dining chairs and lit with a Floss Arco floor lamp; simple but incredibly functional. **I've been fortunate enough to** collect some great pieces of furniture and lighting during my time in the business, such as Flos Gun lamps, a Moooi Raimond lamp, a Charles & Ray Eames La Chaise by Vitra and a SouthBeach chair by Tacchini. **My wardrobe is simple**, predominantly Diesel jeans and Ralph Lauren white shirts. My favourite labels are Prada, Louis Vuitton and Rolex. **The best advice I could give is** that behind every successful person there's a lot of unsuccessful years, so never give up. I've also learnt that nowadays people seem to know the price of everything and the value of nothing, so try to appreciate everything you have. ■

1. An ideal match

for his La Rotonda table in the dining room – buy Charlotte Perriand's Mexique 527 Low Table for the living room, Dhs10,232, Cassina **2. Mohsin's favourite watch brand** Rolex presents the CMT Fine Watch And Jewelry Advisors 1977 Rolex 14K Date 1501, Dhs38,565 **3. Iconic lights from** Anglepoise and contemporary furniture from ClassiCon are new to superstudio. Anglepoise Original 1227 brass desk lamp in dusty blue, Dhs1,700. **4. Mohsin admires both Moooi and Marcel Wanders**; combine the two with Moooi's Delft Blue collection by Marcel Wanders. Delft Blue No. 1 ceramic vase, Dhs3,225. **5. Sit back in** Tom Dixon's Fan Dining Chair, a modern take on the classic Windsor, Dhs2,730, superstudio



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